It. sing. 1449 i

THE

VOYAGES

AND

CRUISES

OF

Commodore [George] WALKER,

During the late

SPANISH and FRENCH WARS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

DUBLIN:

Printed by JAMES HUNTER, in *Sycamore-Alley*, near *Essex-Street*.

M,DCC,LXII.

W6/66/695

MDCCLXII

D O B R I N:

IN TWO DIALOGUES

BETWEEN

A FRENCH AND ENGLISH MAN,

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

BY M. L'ABBE

GARNIER.

AND

TWO ENGLISH GENTLEMEN.

THE

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München

INTRODUCTION.

MY intent, as a compiler of the following tranſactions, is to enter upon the ſcene of buſineſs with as little trouble to the reader as poſſible, without the form of a preface or apology; and yet, for the ſake of information, there is a neceſſity of ſaying a few words in the place of both.

The world, more through a tender and compaſſionate concern for Mr. Walker, than out of mere curioſity, has long made enquiry regarding his ſufferings: "How the man, who in his public character ranged the ſeas, as a hawk does the air, in ſearch of enemies, and generally victorious, ſhould ſo far ſink under the diſpleaſure of thoſe very gentlemen, whom he moſtly endeavoured to ſerve, as to be held by them a priſoner for now five years? And how he, who was before poſſeſſed of a very ample fortune, ſhould become a debtor, by the many valuable prizes which he had taken?" To this we will ſay, that a deficiency indeed aroſe in his fortune, by his having advanced too freely ſeveral large ſums to his officers and the men abroad, which were diſputed in his accounts at home, to a difference of near five thouſand pounds. And, ſuppoſing him indebted to them, the world with greater aſtoniſhment aſks the queſtion, "Why they ſtill detain him, when, by ſuch impriſonment, he, becoming a bankrupt, had given up his *all* to his creditors, who had any claim upon him?" But, to give the beſt anſwer in my power, I have often heard Mr. Walker lament how unhappily thoſe very gentlemen were impoſed upon, in a bad belief of him, by ſome evil men, who, to ſcreen their own wicked acts from juſtice, and to get into favour of thoſe

gentlemen they had abuſed, falſely repreſented his intent only of proſecuting his right at law as an avowed reſolution of becoming their enemy, and under that advantage charged him as the author or confederate of their own baſe attempts againſt them.

As I had the honour, for ſuch I ſhall ever deem it, of having been with him in moſt of the cruiſes he made, and engagements in which he commanded, during the late wars, I have often, in the time of his confinement, aſked him to give me leave to publiſh an account of his conduct as a commander at ſea, to ſhew the world that no part of that conduct could with any propriety be uſed as a reaſon for his being ſo long confined; urging the circumſtance of ſuch confinement as a ſufficient reaſon for the publication; but I have been more than once checked in my purpoſe with theſe words, *Have patience, my friend, the public do not yet make my caſe their concern.*

But the houſe of commons having, under their conſideration, the ſtate of bankrupts, lately taken his caſe into examination, and as, from their general regard to mankind, the public have reaſon to expect that ſuch examination of his particular, though not ſingular, caſe, will produce a law for the relief of all perſons from the power of the reſentment of their creditors, (who, as the laws now ſtand, are the only people in the ſtate who have power of doing an injury to their fellow ſubjects, without being accountable for the ſame,) the general curioſity has been raiſed to enquire more particularly into circumſtances relating to him, and into the cauſe of his confinement, I therefore apprehended it a fit ſeaſon for renewing my former applications.

For though, whilſt his caſe ſtill lies ſubmitted to that auguſt body till ſome determination be agreed on, for the aſſiſtance of all perſons in the like circumſtances, we would not be thought to appeal from that ſubmiſſion, the following ſheets being only a detail of his actions at ſea, to ſet his conduct in the firſt place clear as a ſea officer, yet the methods uſed by ſome of his enemies to miſrepreſent him to the

world

world oblige his friends to diſſipate ſuch falſe repreſentations, endeavoured to be drawn over as a cloud againſt the truth of his actions, leſt a prejudice at this time taking place againſt him might be of deſtructive conſequence. We ſay not this from a miſtruſt, that any one of Mr. Walker's friends in particular has been ſingly ſet upon to withdraw his regard from him; but as an offer to enter the liſts, whenever an attack ſhall be made upon the whole in general; and, to ward off any ſtrokes of art in the combat, a few of his particular friends have thought proper to adviſe this defence, or *Narrative of Facts*, which, like the engravings on Æneas' ſhield, may repreſent ſuch truths as check the force of his competitors.

On theſe arguments of his friends I at length gained the permiſſion ſo long ſolicited; but after having delivered the copy to him for his peruſal, I muſt own, I received it back from his hands much diſſatisfied at the ſeverity of his correction, he having run his pen through very near one-third of it. At which I am not ſo much diſobliged, by the ſhortening of the performance, as at the loſs of real truths, which would have illuſtrated the chief perſonage of my work. And though this account may ſpeak to the modeſty of the gentleman himſelf, yet it is ſo far paradoxical, that it takes greatly from his merit. However, as I would not oblige the world in this particular at his pain, I took his permiſſion on the beſt footing I could get it; and have only repaired the breaks, with ſome few additions, where, by the chaſms made, a new ſplicing of the thread was neceſſary to carry on the line in a regular introduction of circumſtances. And will only ſay of him herein, as Mr. Waller does of good writers;

Poets loſe half the praiſe they would have got,
Was it but known what they diſcreetly blot.

As the various accidents ariſing in ſuch a courſe of action, and the ſucceſſes attending his conduct, were

at all times beheld and noted down by me as matters, which, beſides the natural entertainment they might have given in the relation, were worthy of my own attentive review of them, as an improvement to myſelf; I therefore not only made a commentary of all proceedings as they aroſe, where I was preſent, but have ſince, to compleat my hiſtory, carefully gathered every particular of thoſe actions, from which I was abſent, in the repeated and compared reports of thoſe officers and others, who acted under him therein; for as to his own relation of them, though I never once had the leaſt denial of his friendſhip, I am leſs obliged to him than to any one man living.

Tho' the account of the cruiſes, diſtinguiſhed as being under the managers of the Royal Family private ſhips of war, be that which principally concerns the conſideration in view, as they conſtitute the reaſons for his preſent impriſonment; yet, as the former cruiſes were introductory of theſe, I beg leave to give ſome account of the whole, chiefly to range facts in their proper places, which by common report have been crouded into the actions of one cruiſe, when they belonged to another. And, for the more agreeable reading, I have for the moſt part dropped the journal and ſea phraſeology, to throw the matter into a leſs circumſtantial and more eaſy relation.

In entertainment of myſelf, I have alſo ventured ſometimes to deviate from the common tract of the ſubject, by purſuing various concurring incidents, as they intervened, which, tho' they may be thought by ſome ſevere readers to be running out of the way too near the borders of romance, I am perſuaded will be pleaſing to many, and pardoned by all; as we ſhall never loſe ſight of the main road, or err from truth. For, in offering this ſtory to the world, I look upon myſelf as giving an invitation to a various company; and ſhall endeavour to ſpread the table: but, leſt any thing ſhould be diſliked, as foreign or out of ſeaſon, every ſuch plate ſhall have a marked cover to it, that they, who pleaſe, may paſs it over.

Mr.

Mr. Walker, from his own generoſity, has frequently made another objection to the preſent publication, that of his friends being put to the expence of reading any relation concerning him. Did my fortune, like his ſpirit, ſet me above the common faſhion of letting our friends, whom we invite, pay for any part of the entertainment, I ſhould then have had the pleaſure of aſking his friends at my ſole expence. But, as the caſe ſtands, they muſt look on the invitation like our uſual turtle-feaſts, where the owner gives the treat, and the company pay for their wine.

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COMMODORE WALKER'S

VOYAGES.

CHAP. I.

Mr. Walker, being part owner of the ſhip Duke William, takes out letters of marque for her; eſcapes a Spaniſh privateer; enters with his ſhip into the government's ſervice at Carolina; and protects the trade of that province.

WE are now beginning with the detail of ſeveral actions, wherein Mr. Walker, as a commander, always prevailed, to the intire ſatisfaction of his employers, and of the officers and people under him. We would not, however, have it imagined, that he undertook and executed ſuch command undiſciplined in the art of war; ſuch ſucceſſes could not in the nature of things be expected; but from an attained knowledge and approved experience of the powers of that art. He was not, it is true, brought up in the navy of England; a circumſtance ſo far a diſadvantage to him as more than once to have fruſtrated the intentions of ſome gentlemen, his friends, who wiſhed to ſee his talents exerted in that high ſphere of honour—but he was early and regularly educated in the navy of Holland; and had been in ſome engagements under various commanders in the Dutch ſervice againſt the Turks. An univerſal peace becalming the European ſeas, he turned his talents to the attaining a fortune in the neareſt branch of buſineſs to that in which he was educated, namely, that of trading, in his own ſhips, wherein he always commanded. To this cir-

cumſtance we may greatly aſcribe that calmneſs of temper, and preſence of mind, ſo prevalent in him on all occaſions; as he learned the art of command and oeconomy together, at the conſtant riſque of his own property.

In this ſtation we will take him up in the year 1739-40 commander and a conſiderable owner of the ſhip Duke William, bound from London to Gibraltar, and from thence to South-Carolina. The war being now declared, and Mr. Walker chuſing to reap what advantages thereof might acrue in the aforeſaid paſſage, determined to put himſelf in the beſt poſture of defence, and took out letters of marque for the ſaid ſhip, not with an intent to cruiſe as a privateer, but to proceed with her on a trading voyage. Accordingly he fitted her out with twenty guns; but did not incumber his trade with a greater expence than that of taking thirty-two men, his buſineſs being only to ſecure his voyage: for which purpoſe he alſo took with him a parcel of marine cloaths and other things, to make a ſhew of men anſwerable to the force of his ſhip, in caſe of meeting with an enemy. He had the good fortune to ſucceed in this device a few days after he ſet ſail. In his paſſage from London to Gibraltar, off Cape-Finiſterre, at break of day, we fell in with a Spaniſh privateer of twenty-four guns; and ſeeing her a ſhip of force, and full of men, Mr. Walker immediately ordered our marines on deck, who wanted no breaſt-work between them and the enemy, either to conceal their number, or in reality to ſave them from their fire. Thus ſetting up all the hand-ſpikes and other provided utenſils, and dreſſing them in the marine cloaths, and alſo exerciſing the boatſwain's call in the higheſt notes, as is uſual in king's ſhips, we made all apparent and indeed real preparations of engaging; our fictitious ſoldiery not being in our way, in caſe of an engagement, and ſerving at firſt to intimidate the enemy. Upon one of our officers ſaying with ſome humour, if we came too near with our ſcheme, the enemy might be too well pleaſed in underſtanding the joke, Mr.

Walker

Walker made anſwer, "Do you but fire well your guns, and the ſmoke will befriend you; eſpecially if we have an enemy of ſpirit, who will fire theirs: if not, the wooden men will take them off themſelves." However at the droll appearance of this equipment, Mr. Walker could not help often breaking off, in the midſt of his orders, into fits of laughter: which were as heartily ſeconded by the whole crew. This very much took off the ſenſe of the great danger we were in, and ſo ſpirited the men, that, as we were well gunned, we had certainly not fallen an eaſy prey to the Spaniard in caſe of his engaging us; for never ſure ſo ſmall a number of men expected the attack of a ſuperior enemy with leſs concern, or more in wit and ſpirits. All things, nevertheleſs, being well ordered and prepared for the worſt event, it being our place to appear the challengers, Mr. Walker lay by for the enemy, they being to windward; and ordered a gun of defiance to be fired, athwart their forefoot, by way of offering them battle. This the Spaniard did not return, nor yet did he ſeem reſolved to decline the conteſt; but ſtill kept us company for two days; we purſuing our way, and he hovering on us in the wind: at laſt he diſappeared, aſſuredly miſtaking us for a greater force than we were.

When we arrived at South-Carolina, Mr. Walker was diſappointed by the cargo's not being ready, which he expected. Whereupon he went to North-Carolina; and there being informed, that their coaſts had been infeſted by two Spaniſh privateers, which had greatly obſtructed and injured their trade, and that they were at preſent unprotected by any of his Majeſty's fleet, he offered his ſhip for the government's ſervice, to act in the defence of their coaſts, and for the protection of their trade. His propoſals being gladly accepted, terms were agreed on, the men put all at wages as in the king's ſhips, and his complement made up to an hundred and thirty. Mr. Walker, tho' commander, entered himſelf a volunteer; an example ſo well approved, that ſeveral gentlemen of the country entered on board as volunteers alſo.

In

In July we ſet out on a four-months cruiſe, to extend as far ſouthwards as St. Auguſtin, the next port to Georgia; and northwards, as far as the Cape of Virginia. We ſoon reſtored the trade of the country to its former quiet, having, in a ſhort time, intirely cleared the coaſts of privateers; the two Spaniſh ſhips above-mentioned having quitted their cruiſe, as we ſuppoſe, upon receiving ſome intelligence of our fitting out. We could fall in with nothing which would ſtay for us upon the ſeas; and in this whole cruiſe only retook the Neptune, captain Darby, who had been taken by the above privateers. Mr. Walker finding the Spaniards had their place of rendezvous at Okrekoke, an iſland upon the coaſt of North-Carolina, which they took poſſeſſion of by claim of arms, and had there erected a fort of ſix guns, we went aſhore, and demoliſhed the battery and fortifications; ſo that the Spaniards never returned during our ſtay on that ſtation, which intirely broke their plan of privateering in thoſe ſeas.

With this ſucceſs only the cruiſe ended; by which time a king's ſhip was ſent to take ſtation on the coaſt. Upon our return, governor Gabriel Johnſton, and the whole aſſembly of the place, had an occaſional meeting, in which public thanks, in the name of the governor and aſſembly, were ordered to be returned to Mr. Walker for his great ſervices in the protection of their trade; and indeed every mark of reſpect, both outward and private, were ſhewn him by the gentlemen of the country, who often made offer to him of writing home to the lords of the admiralty, and aſking in a collective body a king's ſhip for him; a favour which he declined, as he knew that, by the rules of the navy, a man muſt have ſerved in it two years before he can obtain a command. Their friendſhip then would have ſecured his ſtay amongſt them, by a further offer of a large tract of land, which they had power of preſenting him by a complimentary uſe of their law in his favour. As a man is there intitled to fifty acres of land for every ſervant whom he brings with him, under his command, to ſettle in the country;

try; ſo they abſolutely offered him ſix thouſand five hundred acres as an inducement to him to ſettle among them, rating each man, under his command in the ſhip as a ſervant at the time, intitling him to the uſual claim. This indulgence alſo was then refuſed, as incompatible with his other purſuits of life. That poſterity will in a few years wonder at this and the like refuſals may be eaſily foreſeen; when an eſtate of like extent may be of ſuch ſignificancy in eſteem, as to dignify its poſſeſſor with reſpected honours, in perhaps one of the fineſt countries of the world.

As generoſity founded on gratitude is one of the moſt diſtinguiſhing virtues, I could not be leſs particular in ſhewing, that it is a plant which already flouriſhes in our infant colonies.

CHAP. II.

The loſs of the Duke William at ſea, in her paſſage home from North-Carolina.

THE cruiſe being over, and the coaſt otherways defended, our men were reduced to their former number, and Mr. Walker ſet ſail on his trading voyage to Barbadoes. There he lay four months for a cargo; and thence ſailed October 31, 1742, in company with the captains Staples, Chambers and Burrowes, who put themſelves under our convoy. The firſt Night after we left Barbadoes, captain Burrowes loſt company; but the captains Staples and Chambers continued with us, till the 12th of December, and then they alſo were parted from us in a ſtorm. In this hurricane, which was very violent, we ſprung one of our buts or planks of the ſhip. Being then two hundred leagues to the weſtward of Scilly, and the ſhip making a great deal of water, we ſoon became in great diſtreſs, both our pumps going night and day. What added much to our affliction was Mr. Walker's ill ſtate of health, who had not been out of his bed for three weeks before, on account of the bloody flux; and was thereby reduced to ſuch a

lowneſs

lowneſs of ſpirits as to be ſcarce able to give any direction, our ſurgeon having given over all hopes of his life. Our officers and men were at firſt for throwing the boat and all the guns over board, in order to eaſe the ſhip: this expedient was executed, reſerving two of the guns, kept by Mr. Walker's order to make ſignals, and the boat, which he inſiſted they ſhould not part with. In other particulars the ſcheme was fulfilled. The ſtorm continuing, the leak daily encreaſed from the fourteenth to the ſeventeenth, and our men being quite fatigued, and not able to ſtand to the pumps, deſpairing of all ſuccour, (for it was not in our utmoſt power to keep the ſhip above water twelve hours longer, ſhe having, notwithſtanding our inceſſant labour, eight feet of water in her hold), ſome of the officers and crew agreed to take to the boat, as the laſt refuge for their lives, thinking themſelves happy in having it preſerved for them to this end. Mr. Walker, who, notwithſtanding his illneſs, inſiſted on being regularly informed of every circumſtance of the ſhip, now ordered himſelf to be taken out of his bed, and carried upon deck. He there repreſented to them the impoſſibility of the boat's being able to hold above one half of the people; and demonſtrated that in all probability ſhe muſt be devoured by the waves, the ſea ſtill running mountains high. He therefore aſſured them, "Their only hopes muſt be that providence would ſend ſome ſail to their aſſiſtance; and the longer they kept the ſhip from ſinking, the greater was the probability of their being preſerved: that even if a ſail did appear, the moſt they could expect from their boat would be to tranſport them, from one ſhip to the other." This argument with grief finding way to their conviction, they applied themſelves with double diligence to the pumps: but no relief appearing, and the men being again intirely ſpent, the argument on the other ſide ſeemed to prevail, of taking to our boat, as the only, tho' ſad, expedient for the inſtant to fly to; the people ſaying, "that if half might be ſpared, better that half ſhould be ſaved than all ſhould periſh."

Nay

Nay ſome, who were over-fatigued with labour, or judged there was as little chance of ſafety in the boat as in the ſhip, declared, "They would not preſs to the boat, as they would as ſoon ſink in the one as in the other." During the time in which we were fixing the tackle aloft, for hoiſting out the boat, being about two o'clock in the afternoon, we ſpied a ſail off the weather-quarter. Every man was now again alive, and for living as long as another. Mr. Walker, who ſtill continued upon deck, with uncommon ſpirits, rather gaining ſtrength than ſinking, as was expected under his illneſs, ordered all the ſignals of diſtreſs to be made, by hoiſting a flag upſide down, at the top-maſt-head, and firing our guns. The ſhip, perceiving our ſignals, drew near to us; and how anxious, yet pleaſing, were the moments of ſeeing our deliverance come more and more in view! But, at length, ſhe diſcovering us a ſhip of war, and apprehenſive of an intent in us to decoy her, all at once hauled her wind, and got from us as faſt as ſhe could. Night now coming on, and the ſtorm continuing, our diſtreſs was again renewed with double feelings, if poſſible, of our miſery. A ghaſtly ſilence for ſome minutes prevailed, each man beholding the ſurprize and ſorrow in the countenance of his diſappointed brother; when Mr. Walker gave orders for the mizen maſt to be immediately cut by the board. They, who firſt received his orders, not readily ſeeing its intent, made ſome ſcruple in executing it: at laſt, the thought like a flaſh of lightning breaking upon the minds of the whole ſhip, it was in an inſtant down. This the other ſhip at a diſtance obſerving, their attention being again drawn to us by a ſecond firing of our guns, and being thereby convinced of the reality of our diſtreſs, ſhe directly bore down to our aſſiſtance. But how greatly did the ſurprize heighten the joy of our approaching deliverance, when Mr. Walker, having his glaſs in his hand, cried out, "Good God! 'tis my worthy friend captain Burrowes," for there was a particular love and friendſhip ſubſiſting between them. This was the ſame gentleman who had

loſt

loſt company of us the firſt night after we left Barbadoes; and whom ſince then we had never ſeen till this critical moment of our fate. Having been chaſed the evening before, by a Spaniſh privateer, he altered his courſe in the night to get rid of her; and was thus providentially ſet right in the road to our deliverance and his own.

Captain Burrowes, on the true diſcovery of us, was as ready on his ſide to do us every eager act of friendſhip: but had no boat proper to ſend to our help, his largeſt having been waſhed over board ſome days before in the ſtorm, and the other, which was left, being too ſmall to live in the preſent ſea; ſo that we were ſolely to truſt to our own; and had ſhe not been providentially at firſt preſerved to us by the authority of Mr. Walker, or been afterwards taken away by any of the officers and crew, as was endeavoured, all or the part that remained muſt now have periſhed in the very ſight of our friends, unprovided to relieve us. The boat being obliged to go twice with our people, as the days were ſhort, and ſo little reſidue of light left, the ſea running ſtill very high, it was with the utmoſt difficulty we all got on board; which, however, we did under the great will of providence, without the loſs of one man. The expreſſions of thanks to that providence, and of joy in meeting our countrymen and friends, as ordained to be the means of this deliverance, were not long abated, before the moon riſing, as it were, on purpoſe to light us to the proſpect, we ſaw with a renewal of ſome melancholy our ſhip go down: which was in leſs than two hours from our quitting her, we being then about one hundred and ſeventy leagues weſtward of Scilly, December the ſeventeenth. However, we were ſoon cheered in the reflection of our own eſcape; and Mr. Walker's ſurprizing recovery added to the preſent ſatisfaction of that ſafety. From the moment he was lifted from his bed, he every hour after increaſed in health and ſtrength: owing in all probability to the ſudden exertion of his ſpirits and turn of blood on the occaſion.

But

But the visible designs of providence to us all, at this juncture, were not over. Mr. Burrowes's ship also in the same storm had sprung a small leak, which next day after our joining him visibly encreased; and in two days after, by the time our men had somewhat recovered the use of their limbs, was so great as to give employment to all hands: so that if a less number had been on board, she must inevitably have gone to the bottom. As it was, we did a second time but just escape; the same preserving hand, which directed her to our deliverance, in the same act designing her relief by the additional number of our men.

In this condition we in five days after made Scilly, being the first land; and got in safe, to stop her leak: for which purpose we were obliged to lay there eight days. We then came round the land, and January the first, 1742-3, arrived at Dover: from whence Mr. Walker took chaise, and went to London. Here a new misfortune happened to him: for the insurance that had been regularly carried on for his concern in the said ship, which was very considerable, was by some mistake neglected to be renewed but two months before his arrival. Thus, we may say, he at land a second time lost his said ship, and all his property in her.

The journals having been lost with the ship, we could not be so particular in the relation of some circumstances, especially as to time, as might otherwise be expected from us. The like excuse we must also make in regard to the next following cruise but one; as the very same reason, tho' not with the like misfortune, subsists also there.

CHAP. III.

Voyage in the Russia Merchant, to Gottenburgh and Cronstadt, near Petersburgh. Three remarkable executions there.

AS there is a year's chasm, between the loss of the Duke William and Mr. Walker's taking on

on him the command of another ſhip of war, in which time he was not idle, we will juſt give an account how he employed the year, till the breaking out of the French war: leſt other people may be taught to believe, that ſome miſmanagement, which we wanted to hide, was the cauſe of our leaving out any part of his life, during the war. In this ſpace ſome occurrences happened, new in their nature, which we will venture to give to the reader, in excuſe for taking up his time in noting the tranſactions of the year.

After the loſs of the ſaid ſhip, Mr. Walker's former joint owners, Mr. Robert Mackey, (a gentleman, to whom Mr. Walker is under the greateſt obligations, as a friend to him even at this day) and Mr. William Vigor, joined him in the purchaſe of a very fine ſnow, about one hundred and thirty tons, called the Ruſſia Merchant, to be employed in the Peterſburgh or Baltic trade; in which ſhe made three trips within the year. The firſt was from London, in March 1743, to Gottenburgh in Sweden, and back again in June following: but this produced no incident worth recounting.

On the twenty-eighth of the ſame month he ſailed upon his ſecond voyage to Peterſburgh; and in the following month arrived at that city. During his ſtay in the country, he was ſpectator of a very remarkable execution, viz. of ſeveral noblemen and ladies of the firſt rank and quality: who were ſentenced to be broke on the wheel, for a conſpiracy againſt the preſent empreſs Elizabeth. Theſe very perſons were the inſtruments, but the year before, of bringing her, as the daughter of the late Peter the Great, to the throne, by the beſt-laid plan that ever produced ſo great a revolution of government; and this without one drop of blood being ſpilt on the occaſion. But ſhe taking, as they thought, other and new favourites to be more near her perſon, as aſſiſtants to her in the direction of affairs of ſtate, theſe unhappy perſons aſſociated in a conſpiracy of poiſoning her; in which the French embaſſador, Chetardie, was ſaid to have been the actuating inſtigator, though he

turned

turned traitor to his confederates, the evening before the intended treaſon. This affair was afterwards more fully diſcloſed by our Engliſh Lord Tyrawly, who was ſent plenipotentiary to that court. This nobleman, by getting at the Frenchman's papers, and other detections, ſet him forth to the empreſs in his true light; and had him ſent home in the utmoſt diſgrace: the empreſs only allowing him a ſcanty time, even to take refreſhment, thro' her dominions. The perſon who was next to ſuffer execution was a prieſt, a man of ſeeming great addreſs and politeneſs: he was ſaid to be one of the higheſt ſenſe and underſtanding. His crime was that of introducing a kind of ſchiſm in their church, which is of the Greek perſuaſion, differing little from the Roman catholic faith, except in the two points of tranſubſtantiation, and ſupremacy of papal authority. The new method he ſubſtituted was in the manner of croſſing themſelves, the uſual way being with the two firſt fingers and thumb, repreſenting the trinity; whereas he taught the croſſing with one only, repreſenting the all-ſufficiency of one God; which was underſtood by his brother-prieſts as a leſſening the other two perſons of the hypoſtatical union. The third was a merchant or commiſſioner, who, having been truſted by the government, as agent in ſome department, had been found guilty of embezzling the public money; this being held among them a crime of the higheſt nature. At the place of execution, as is uſual, they beat a drum to demand ſilence; and then each perſon's crimes were proclaimed to the populace. After this ceremony was performed, and whilſt the directors and ſtate-criminals were preparing, the one to perform, and the other to ſuffer the ſentence paſſed, the empreſs's ſpecial pardon came down, excuſing the ſeverity of death, but in its place ordering the puniſhment of knouting, their tongues to be cut out, and their perſons baniſhed to Siberia. The knouting is a kind of whipping with an inſtrument like a ſingle-handed flail; with which the operating proficient can, in two or three ſtrokes at the moſt, cut the patient to death,

death, when the ſentence ſo directs. But here the ſeeming rigour of the orders was even greatly leſſened in the performance, the ſtripes being laid on their naked backs more out of ignominy than puniſhment; and the ceremony of cutting out their tongues being got over by a ſmall part taken off, ſo as to be more an inconvenience at the time than hindrance to their ſpeaking; except as to one lady, who made ſome great ſtruggles in defence of that member: ſo that the executioner was obliged to exert a little violence, and in uſing his opportunity, took off a larger ſhare than perhaps he intended; or ſhe, by her indignation at him when done, ſeemed willing to part with. They were all immediately put together in vehicles, without regard to ſex or diſtinction, and ſent out of the city, on their baniſhment.

As the prieſt's offence was againſt the church only, he had no advocates there to ſpeak for mercy. He bore his ſentence, which was beheading, with an undaunted intrepidity, from his firſt advancing on the ſcaffold to his laſt reſignation, affecting, and indeed rivalling, the character of a martyr; ſo that it is more than probable, as he had many proſelytes, he obtained his deſign by making ſome new diſciples among the multitude to preach his doctrine after him.

The laſt buſineſs was of all the moſt moving, that of the agent to the government; to whom all hopes of a reprieve were cut off: defrauding of the government being there equal to clipping of coin amongſt us. He did not diſcover any want of the powers of a man, to bear him up thro' this laſt trial: but the affecting ſcene aroſe in the interview of taking leave between him and his wife: for ſhe attended him even to this tragic ſtage. She was, beyond repreſenting it, the living picture of ſorrow; and her whole addreſs was very tender. When ſinking down from him under the heart-breaking pain of the laſt embrace, ſhe felt an end of all; for ſhe firſt met the ſtroke of death; never more recovering from her ſwoon. His ſudden agonies on the occaſion were very ſtriking, and a more heightened tragedy than imitation ever repreſented.

sented on fiction's stage. He hastened to his death, and we to close the scene.

CHAP. IV.

Voyage to Copenhagen; the public entrance of the princess Louisa; an account of an English prisoner there; a melancholy accident on the ice; and Mr. Walker's return to London.

MR. Walker, having returned from Petersburgh to London in October, again set sail on his third voyage, and arrived at Copenhagen in the middle of November following. As he was here made prisoner by the season, his ship being froze up, we will also detain the reader for awhile in the amusements that intervened. The weather here, notwithstanding the strength of the frost, is extremely clear and pleasant; nor is the cold at all disagreeably sharp, rather enlivening the spirits than giving any shuddering checks of inaction to the body. But it was remarkably serene and temperate, as if nature joined in the universal joy, when the princess Louisa made her public entrance on her marriage with the prince of Denmark, the present king; which, for so great respect shewn an English princess, cannot help being mentioned by an English spectator of it. She appeared dress't in her marriage robes in an open chariot, or rather a triumphal car, designed on purpose in the richest taste of grandeur and ornamented, and drawn by six white horses in very superb trappings. The prince's sister sat with her in the chariot, and the prince himself rode before them on horseback, so rich in dress and his number of foot attendants, as to perplex the view where to fix on the chief object of its admiration. Not an horse in the great streets, thro' which they passed, but was covered with hangings of tapestry, or whole pieces of velvet, tacked on the columns or piers, richly or fancifully bordered with other ornaments of pictures, or carvings with occasional designs above and under the windows; and

and at the end of each of the ſtreets were triumphal arches erected of various and beautiful architecture, with decorations of paintings, gildings, and flowers: in all of which were placed, the arms of England and Denmark joined, and ſoft muſick of flutes or hautboys to play as the proceſſion paſſed below. This, with the number of led and attending equipages, moſt of which were intirely new, and grand, with the army, and various bands of martial inſtruments, great officers and enſigns of ſtate, was a ſight of ſplendor and magnificence, that fully ſatisfied the eager ſenſe of expectation. The firſt coach of the officers who preceded reached the palace at eleven o'clock; and the laſt of the nobility's, who all followed according to their rank and dignity, did not get up till paſt nine: ſo long was the proceſſion, and ſo numerous the attendants. The jubilee, as we may call it, held for a full week. In which time all public diverſions were afloat, and at every noble's private table a public entertainment, while ſeveral fountains before their doors flowed for the populace with wine. Every day the guns were diſcharged quite round the town; which, as the city is walled round, and of a regular figure, with their ſucceſſive firings, circulated on the ear in a pleaſing exactneſs. Every night were conſtant illuminations throughout the whole city; and the ſhips in the harbour were alſo the whole time lighted out with the greateſt fancy, and from their reflected luſtre outvied the land. In ſhort, the whole, from the higheſt noble to the loweſt plebeian, was an elegant and polite expreſſion of mutual congratulation and public joy.

A very remarkable perſon was then at Copenhagen, who had been kept a priſoner in an iron cage. Mr. Walker went to ſee him: he was a gentleman of Lancaſhire, eſteemed a man of profound policy. He had been employed by Charles XII. king of Sweden, and particularly truſted by that monarch in acts of bold enterprize. His alledged crime againſt Denmark was ſaid to have been an intent to ſteal away the prince, when a boy, as he rode along the coaſt, and

to have carried him an hoſtage to Sweden, which was then at variance with Denmark. But his real deſign, which he confeſſed, was to have raiſed an inſurrection in favour of his royal maſter, to forward his deſigns of an invaſion upon England. Being detected in his attempt, he was, under the forementioned pretenſions, impriſoned by the ſtate. He afterwards had made his eſcape, and got to Hamburgh, where he boaſted, that all Denmark had not a cage able to hold him. But with all his cunning, being ſeduced by ſome of his acquaintance, who betrayed him, to walk out of one of the towns, near to which ſome territories of the Danes belonged, he was, inſenſibly to himſelf, led on Daniſh ground, and there arreſted, and brought back to Denmark; which was the reaſon of his having been ſo caged. He had been in his cage upwards of eleven years, but at this time was let out into a large room. He had wrote ſeveral volumes of anecdotes and annals: but, as he was a great bigot to party, none of his performances have been allowed to trouble mankind. During his long confinement, which had then laſted upwards of thirty years, he never had one hour's illneſs; and had let his beard grow to a venerable length, reaching to the middle of his thighs. As a memorandum of himſelf, he would ſometimes give to a perſon he liked a ſingle hair of it, by way of a preſent: and it was really no little curioſity, being quite of a ſilver whiteneſs. Among the various amuſements, which enabled him to paſs his time alone, he dwelt with great fondneſs on the hiſtory of a mouſe; which grew ſo familiar with him in his cage, as to come regularly to be fed by him, or attend him at his call, and divert him for hours in play, as he lay down to it. At length, growing ſick with age, it ſtayed by him till it died, and expired in his beard, where he had wrapped it up for warmth. He had it buried under his cage, being a ground floor, and wrote a treatiſe on it; ſhewing the ſagacity of animals, and their deſire of intimacy with man.

As

As a parallel caſe I have been told or read a ſtory of a man, who was kept a priſoner in a Turkiſh government for many years: when the Baſha of the place often taking occaſion of aſking the officers, how the man diverted himſelf in his lonely hours? was at laſt informed by one of them, that he had taken notice of his diverting himſelf, ſeveral hours together in a day, with a ſpider; which frequently deſcended to him from over his head, to be fed and played with; which, when touched below, ran himſelf up by his thread; and ſo again came down, as pleaſed with the diverſion. The prince ordered the officer to plant him ſo as to behold the ſcene. "O Sir, ſays the officer, I immediately, upon being convinced of the amuſement, went in upon them, and killed the ſpider." "Did you ſo? ſays the prince. Then he ſhall be more reaſonably diverted, and you go in his place; and, I hope, find the happineſs of making ſuch an acquaintance:" ſo he releaſed the priſoner, and put the giddy, if not cruel, officer in his room.

He mentioned ſeveral ſecret actions of paſt time, as facts of his own knowledge; which would be worth notice, could we introduce them in place. But the more ſurprizing hiſtorian was a gentleman, a native of Norway, Baron Holberg, then one hundred and twenty-three years of age, in a public office of the king's revenue at Copenhagen, having all his ſenſes and faculties perfect as in youth, except his hearing. The king had his picture in his curioſity-chamber. Mr. Walker was introduced into his company; he was very entertaining in converſation, had been in England the greater part of his youth, and was a ſpectator of the death of king Charles I. Had ſome of our modern hiſtorians been ſo fortunate as to have happened on this acquaintance, they had informed themſelves better of ſome circumſtances regarding that cataſtrophe, and have done more juſtice to the character of that miſguided king.

One of the winter amuſements in this country, both of the genteel and common people, is the exerciſe of

ſliding

ſliding on the ice. The genteel people have here, but more frequently in other places of Germany, ſledges or vehicles without wheels, richly ornamented and painted, drawn by a ſingle horſe, which is generally covered with trappings of embroidered velvet, or other rich furniture. In this kind of chariot they ſet the lady, whilſt the gentleman ſtands cloſe to her behind, with the reins brought round the ſides, and drives. Theſe vehicles run either in the ſnow upon land, or on the ice; and whole parties of gentlemen and ladies go out together pleaſuring in them. A melancholy accident happened among the common ſort, who were ſcating juſt by Mr. Walker's ſhip, after their cuſtom, in a ſtring of men and women, holding each other by the hand. In this manner they often make ſweeps, or circles, all bearing up together, of great circumference; and ſometimes the leader ſtill running in a leſſer and leſſer circle, till he makes a ſtand, the reſt wind round him, till they become an exact round or circle. Then the laſt man throwing himſelf out as leader, they will all again regularly unwind, and go off in various meanderings, very pleaſing to be ſeen, and certainly of great entertainment to themſelves; as from the good ſpirits the exerciſe puts them into, they always ſeem very gay and happy. But as miſchance will often interrupt diverſion, as fools ſpoil converſation, the foremoſt ſcater, in one of theſe exerciſes, ridiculouſly threw himſelf down all of a ſudden, tripping the next ſcater over him, which threw down the next, and ſo ſucceſſively one tumbling in an heap over the other, till the force of their falling all in one ſpot broke the ice, and down the whole unhappy party went, in the midſt of their mirth, to the number of about thirty. This was an accident, of which the like had not been known to have happened before, and was very deplorable in the confuſion and lamentations of the by-ſtanders; many of whom had ſome friend, relation, or child, in the calamity. I hope I ſhall not be thought by our ladies of England, to give too many examples of good wives from among

the women of theſe more northern countries, in juſt mentioning two inſtances. One of them, who ſaw her huſband thus ſwallowed in her preſence, ran inſtantly mad, beating herſelf upon the ice in vain endeavours of breaking it, in ſearch and relief of him; and, in a continued delirium, expired ſome time afterwards. Another, who was abſent from the accident, in melancholy deliberation put herſelf to death with her huſband's ſword, leaving a formal letter to her daughter, who was then about eighteen, with arguments which we muſt own too refined, "that no good wife can ſurvive the loſs of a good huſband." The poor girl alſo died in about a month after, with inconſolable grief, at the loſs of her parents: but it was ſaid, ſhe had a further loſs alſo of a lover in the diſaſterous croud.

Leſt, in the above relation, I may do myſelf an injury with the younger fair ones, as I profeſs being a batchelor, in gaining if not the cenſure, or even anger, yet the ridicule of the good wives of England, I muſt ſpeak here for myſelf——which is perhaps the only place where I ſhall take the freedom in the whole hiſtory——that tho' every writer is not obliged to give his ſentiments of thoſe facts he relates, yet I will venture in this caſe at delivering mine. "Thoſe actions, which are the effects of a violence of paſſion, prove the mind to be too ſuddenly actuated, and reaſon too weak to rule. So all that can be inferred from any compariſon muſt be, that, as there is not one inſtance to the contrary, our Engliſh ladies have the advantage over the greater part of their own ſex, in having more judgment."—To give them a further proof of it, a miſguided reaſon will run the ſyſtem of woman into the ſame errors, where a weak one leaves them. Thus I have been aſſured by a ſpectator of the action, that in ſome of the iſles belonging to the Eaſt-Indies, at the funerals of their men, whoſe bodies are always burnt, the poor enthuſiaſtic wife, young and beautiful, has leapt, unobliged to it, into the flames with an eager deſire of uniting herſelf again to the embraces of her lord.

When

When winter's priſoners were all ſet free, Mr. Walker again ſet ſail, and went to Gottenburgh, April 2d, 1744. At this time news came of the Toulon engagement. The French war being thereupon immediately declared, and every day's ſucceeding accounts bringing word of the number of ſmall French privateers in thoſe ſeas, catching up all our ſhips thereabouts, (as they had long before lain ready to ſail, waiting only for the word) he was under ſome uneaſineſs how to get home; for there was no opportunity of convoy. He therefore had no courſe of ſafety to chuſe, but in ſtratagem. He remembered his former ſcheme of adding a mockery of men to his ſhip the Duke William: but then ſhe was really a ſhip of force. Here he had no more than 4 guns, and nothing that looked military: whereupon, as caſting cannon there might be expenſive and tedious, he got a moſt compleat ſet of wooden guns, finely modelled; which he painted of a true metaline colour, and fixing nettings or tarpolins upon the quarters, ſet her out in appearance even to a near eye a ſhip of war, being ſnow rigged like a king's ſloop. Under theſe falſe colours he ſailed out of port on a venture homewards; and off Cromarty met a privateer, who gave chaſe. He finding her come up, put about on her, hoiſted enſign, jack, and pendant, and fired a gun as waiting for her: ſhe then thought proper to make the beſt of her way to ſea. In the run home he met alſo ſeveral ſmall privateers, like birds, ſcudding about the ſeas; who all ſcoured from him at his appearance, as one of greater prey; and he arrived in London the May following.

CHAP. V.

The encounters of the Mars private ſhip of war; her ſurrender; her being retaken and brought back to England; and Mr. Walker carried into Breſt.

IN the year 1744, ſome gentlemen in London and Dartmouth, acquaintances of Mr. Walker's, fit-

ted out two private ſhips of war, the Mars and Boſcawen. The command of the Mars was offered to Mr. Walker, being a fine ſhip of twenty-ſix guns, and one hundred and thirty men, to ſail on a ſix-months cruiſe, in conjunction with the Boſcawen.

In November, both ſhips ſet ſail from Dartmouth; and the ſecond day after, fell in with a French ſhip, a king's frigate, of twenty-ſix guns, and two hundred and ſeventy men, from Breſt, but a much larger veſſel. The Mars immediately began to engage her, unaſſiſted by the Boſcawen, ſhe once or twice firing, but at ſuch a diſtance as not to reach the enemy. The engagement, which became very warm, laſted for a full hour and an half; in which, the French having the wind of us, and keeping at a diſtance, where they have always the beſt advantage by the expertneſs of their engineers, very much ſhattered our rigging, and wounded our main top-maſt. They however having received from our ſide, as we found afterwards, conſiderable damage in her hull, ſet their ſails directly for Breſt; yet ſtill continued the engagement: we following in a running fight, in which, ſeveral broadſides were exchanged, when a-breaſt of each other. At laſt the enemy getting a-head, left off firing his guns, except only his ſtern chace; and then intirely run off, being a very prime ſailor, and, going much better than we, got clear away into Breſt. We then joined our conſort, and repaired our rigging. Mr. Walker went on board the Boſcawen; and had a private conference with the captain; but was never heard to throw any cenſure publickly on his behaviour: what was the reſult of the conference no one knew; but we were ſoon ſenſible, that it produced no great effect.

In December following, about twelve o'clock at night, the wind blowing freſh, and thick rainy weather, we fell in with two large French ſhips, and were cloſe upon them before we perceived them. By being ſo near we heard the enemy in great confuſion, knowing them by their language to be French: and, by the fear they ſeemed to be under,

imagined

imagined them to be rich Martinico men, homeward bound; and ſo far it happened true, the terror obſerved ariſing from a fear for their riches on board. Accordingly, all night we kept cloſe purſuit, and ſo continued till eight o'clock next morning; when the weather ſomewhat clearing, we diſcovered them to be men of war, the one of ſeventy-four and the other of ſixty-four guns. The Boſcawen immediately went off; whereas had we ſtood together, he being the larger ſhip, it was more than probable from after circumſtances, that the enemy would have let us retire unmoleſted: but ſeeing the Mars alone, and ſo inferior a ſhip to them, a ſignal was given from the larger ſhip, for the one of ſixty-four guns to chaſe. We then endeavoured as much as poſſible, to keep a-head to get away; but the enemy gained upon us. When they came almoſt within muſquet ſhot, Mr. Walker thus addreſſed himſelf to us: "Gentlemen I do not mean to be ſo raſh as to attempt a regular engagement with ſo ſuperior a force: all I aſk of you is, to confide in me and my orders, to get away if poſſible without ſtriking; and be aſſured, I ſhall employ your aſſiſtance neither in revenge or vain glory, or longer than I think it of uſe to our deſign. The ſhip which purſues is certainly the beſt ſailor of the enemy, by being ordered to the chace: if by good fortune, we bring down a top maſt or yard, or hurt her rigging, ſo as to retard her purſuit, we may intirely get clear." He then ordered our colours to be hoiſted, and ſtern guns to be fired. The enemy at the ſame time hoiſted his, and fired his bow-chace; which did us no damage except in our rigging. Thus we continued the fight for upwards of two hours; Mr. Walker having himſelf placed our beſt quarter gunners at the ſtern-chace, with directions for them to aim at the rigging. But though we made ſeveral ſucceſsful ſhots; yet we had ſcarcely time allowed to give the ſtroke we wanted; for though it is a received opinion, that firing the ſtern guns helps a ſhip forwards in her ſailing; yet if ſhe be obliged to wind, or, as the term is, yaw about,

to bring her guns to take aim, which was our caſe, it muſt ſtop her way for the time, and retard the eſcape. This was certainly the conſequence to us of our ſtrong deſire to repeat our fire at the enemy; which made our running juſt a-head appear to them, rather an artful way of engaging to avoid their broadſides, than a flying before them; which laſt in fact it was; and brought up alſo the other larger ſhip, which had ſtill kept after in the purſuit; and, by the above delay, had now ſo far gained upon us, as almoſt to hem us in between them. In this ſituation they both run out their lower tier: whereupon Mr. Walker with a ſmile, ſaid—" Well, gentlemen, we do not ſtrike to one ſhip only"—and ordered down the colours.

Though the uſual ceremony and greater honour was to have gone aboard the commodore, yet Mr. Walker choſe to ſurrender himſelf to the ſhip he fought: therefore taking his proper officers with him, and giving ſome directions to thoſe who were to follow, he ordered out his barge, and went aboard the ſixty-four gun ſhip, which was the Floriſſant, and the other of ſeventy-four guns, the Neptune. When he came on board, being conducted to the French commander, a man of ſeeming rank and figure, he delivered up to him his ſword and commiſſion: but the reception on the part of the French officer, to our great wonder, was not anſwering the politeneſs expected from the nation in general. The French captain, who ſpoke Engliſh well, aſking him in an high tone, " How dare you, Sir, in ſo ſmall a ſhip, fire againſt a force like me?" To which Mr. Walker anſwered, " Sir, if you'll look at that commiſſion, you will find I had as good a right to fight as you; and if my force had not been ſo inferior to your's, I had ſhewn you more civil treatment on board my ſhip." " How many men have I killed of your's?" ſays the French officer. " None at all, Sir," replied Mr. Walker. " Then Sir, ſays he, you have killed ſix of mine, and wounded ſeveral; you fired pieces of glaſs." Mr. Walker aſſured him of the contrary: however.

however, his treatment was little altered for the better; but the officers took all opportunities of doing Mr. Walker, and his officers, ſeveral acts of civility. Mr. Walker and his lieutenants had indeed the liberty of the quarter-deck; but no accommodation was as yet provided for his bed or table, diſtinct from the reſt. In a few days, the affair of the glaſs, which had given ſuch offence, was thoroughly ſet to rights; the miſtake having happened from an Iriſh ſailor, who had been fixed at one of the ſtern guns aboard the Mars. This honeſt tar, finding the ſhip under a neceſſity of ſtriking, humorouſly took a parcel of ſhillings out of his pocket—about ſixteen—and ſwearing, "That ſooner than the French raſcals ſhould plunder him of all he had in the world, he would firſt ſend it amongſt them, and ſee what a bribe would do,"—ſo wrapping it up in a piece of rag, rammed it into his gun, which was the laſt that was fired. This ſcattering through the rigging over the heads of the men, occaſioned the foregoing ſuppoſition, which was thus ſet to rights, to the ſatisfaction of the whole ſhip.

It was on a Friday we went on board the Floriſſant. At break of day, on the Sunday morning following, we ſaw four ſail of large ſhips aſtern; which greatly alarmed the French, eſpecially as their gaining ground upon us was every half hour more and more viſible. This pannic of the French aroſe, as before, from their concern for the great value of their cargo, bringing home all the French and Spaniſh treaſure from the Weſt-Indies, to the amount of near four millions ſterling; beſides, their ſhips were in no order for fighting, coming ſo long a voyage; and they likewiſe were very ſickly on board. In leſs than two hours, we could plainly perceive the four ſhips aſtern to be Engliſh men of war. The French crowded all the ſail they could, to get away. Whilſt the Engliſh were in purſuit of us, the captain of the Floriſſant, who had by this time become more familiar with Mr. Walker, addreſſed himſelf to him to this effect: "That if it had not been for

the trouble Mr. Walker had given him, by obliging him to go out of his courſe, he might be now further on his way, out of the reach of the ſhips in view; and ſaid, he at the time thought it ill-judged of his commodore to give the ſignal for chaſing, conſidering his treaſure on board;" of which he made no ſecret. "It is ſeldom, ſays he, any great accident happens from ſingle cauſes, but by a chain or ſeries of things: thus, if we be here overcome, our loſs will be owing to the waſpiſhneſs, as he called it, of a ſingle frigate, which would not ceaſe fighting ſo long as it had a ſting in its tail." This being ſaid, though peeviſhly, with ſome pleaſantry, and being more compliment than otherwiſe, was received by us all with equal eaſe: we had certainly no reaſon to be out of temper, as the ſcene of fortune was now clearing up in our favour; for the Engliſh drew near. The ſhips were the Hampton-Court, Dreadnought, Sunderland, and Captain. The French officer on board the Mars judiciouſly bore away to the leeward, in order to draw off one of the ſhips in purſuit of him. This had the intended effect; for his majeſty's ſhip the Captain ſailed off in chaſe of him, and retook him; but did not afterwards return to the fleet, ſo our ſhip the Mars was brought back to England. The Sunderland loſt her main top-maſt in coming up, by which ſhe fell aſtern; but the Hampton-Court of ſeventy guns, and Dreadnought of ſixty, a little aſtern of her, came up along ſide by ſun-ſet. As an engagement now appeared unavoidable on every ſide, the captain of the Floriſſant again, with great politeneſs, ſpoke to Mr. Walker and us to quit the quarter-deck, ſaying, "That he hoped we would excuſe the neceſſity of things: but as an engagement was expected, it was not uſual to admit ſtrangers on their decks." Mr. Walker anſwered, "Sir, I go off with great pleaſure on the occaſion; as I am now certain of my liberty; and I hope to have the ſatiſfaction of ſeeing you again in being." We were then all conducted to the Cock-pit, where we diſcovered the ſad ſituation of the ſhip indeed; here being

ing above one hundred and ninety of her people then lying ſick, unable to ſtir; ſo that their confuſion was very great. But no engagement beginning that evening, Mr. Walker was very ſoon called up. All that night and the next day, the French kept on their way, and the Hampton-Court, and Dreadnought, cloſely followed; when the ſecond evening coming on, the Engliſh altogether diſappeared. As this affair has been already ſettled under the ſanction of a court-martial, we refer to that better examination of the cauſe of ſuch proceedings. During this time, the captain of the Floriſſant every now and then ſent for one or more of us, to refreſh ourſelves in the air. By which opportunity, the fears and terrors of the French, unprovided as they were for an engagement, could be diſtinguiſhed at every new expectation of the Engliſh beginning to engage. But when no enemy appeared on the morning of the ſecond day, nothing then but boaſting of their ſuperior courage to the Engliſh was to be heard, even from the captain himſelf, to the moſt inferior in the ſhip; which could not be heard without ſome little indignation on our part, eſpecially of Mr. Walker; who was before ſo ſure of his liberty, and underwent a very genteel *memorandum* of it from the captain. However, as an inward approbation of themſelves and country, in compariſon with others, is very natural to all people, and more apparent in us than in any one country of the earth, we had nothing to be really offended at; the French in general behaving to us with great humanity and politeneſs, eſpecially the captain, who now grew ſo fond of Mr. Walker's company, that he would not dine without him, and ſome one of his officers of Mr. Walker's own chuſing. He even ſhared part of the ſtate-cabin with him, where he had a bed brought in on purpoſe for his accommodation. With theſe douceurs our time paſſed on more eaſy; and giving up all views of any new deliverance, as we were now in ſight of the French coaſt, we contented ourſelves with

with the expectation of seeing Breſt, the fineſt port in France; to which we were bound, and where we arrived in January, 1744-5.

CHAP. VI.

Mr. Walker's recovery of his own and officers liberty at Breſt; and his return from thence to England.

AS we came into the bay without the harbour of Breſt, we met the French Frigate whom we engaged in the Mars coming out from being refitted. He had had his bow-ſprit dangerouſly wounded, ſo as to be almoſt carried away, and his ſtarboard quarters ſtove in; ſome men killed, but a great many wounded, whom we afterwards went to ſee in the hoſpital. He had reported, upon his engaging of us, that, "He had fought two Engliſh men of war of fifty guns, and had got clear, one of them having ſheered off." This kind of boaſting we are ſure to ſmile at, in foreigners; but ſeldom are ſo unfavourable to our own national glory to detect it in ourſelves. It certainly is a kind of ſpirit, conſtituent of the French genius: but as they are a people of great policy, is ſo far allowable, as they thereby ſtimulate one another to imitate ſuch acts of valour, however they may be miſrepreſented.

The next morning Mr. Walker, fearing the diſtemper, which began to grow violent amongſt the French, might be catched by our men, applied to the captain, to have us ſet on ſhore immediately; which by his intereſt with him, he effected by four o'clock in the evening. This was a great favour, it being Sunday: But it was with much greater difficulty, and as good providence, he perſuaded his friend the captain, for ſo I may juſtly call him, to let him come with us; in which favour to himſelf he was long denied. "What is there, ſaid the captain, (for I was very near him,) that I have been deficient in as a gentleman, to render my accommodation not

quite

quite agreeable to you? Or what is there I can do to make it more ſo? Stay but till to-morrow, and I will take you with me to the governor, and introduce you to every man of conſequence of the place. You ſhall be free; nothing ſhall break in upon your liberty, but the prejudiced notion you have got of it in England." Mr. Walker urging, with many acknowledgments of his favours, that his ſole deſire of going proceeded from a duty, of which he could not even in opinion diveſt himſelf, of ſeeing his men accommodated; "Well then, ſays the French captain, you ſhall not go, till I write two lines by you to the governor:" which giving Mr. Walker, and taking leave with the utmoſt politeneſs, we thought it an happineſs to gain permiſſion of ſetting foot on French ground, as priſoners, with our leader at our head. And here I could not help obſerving the power of ſelf-recommendation, in the change of behaviour of a few days, between the firſt meeting of thoſe gentlemen and the taking leave, a leave, as it happened, for ever.

Mr. Walker immediately proceeded to the governor of the town, who receiving the letter from the French captain, told him, he was at his liberty on parole, and any one or two of his officers he choſe for his companions: but Mr. Walker, who hoped his credentials were more unlimited, making anſwer, "Sir, if I have not my principal officers with me, I can enjoy but little pleaſure in the liberty you beſtow me;" he, with almoſt an obliging condeſcenſion, granted permiſſion for his having all his officers, to the number of ten, on Mr. Walker's parole, to go with him, where he pleaſed, into the town or country; but not by themſelves.—I cannot help being particular in theſe circumſtances, both as it was a great happineſs we received, and ought with gratitude to mention; and which every Engliſhman muſt with pleaſure hear; but alſo, as it may help to remove the bad prejudices we generally entertain of all other countries but our own; which have ſometimes prevented our uſing them, in like circumſtances, ſo

well

well as we would do, did we think they deſerved to be uſed as well as they do.

An univerſal rejoicing was made, and *Te Deum* ordered to be ſung throughout the kingdom, on the arrival of theſe two important ſhips; which had brought home the year's ſtore of treaſure. Amidſt the joy, we were alſo obliged to hear great boaſtings made among the men, of their having offered battle to four large Engliſh men of war, who refuſed fighting them. But all this joy was too ſuddenly overcaſt.

Mr. Walker having procured his own and officers liberty, and viſited the common men in their priſons, where he ſettled the manner of ſupplying them with neceſſaries, and got them the beſt apartments in the place, now brought us all to a public houſe or inn, to refreſh himſelf and us with ſupper; where he agreed with the cook at a rate exceeding the king's allowance, for a particular table for himſelf and us. The cook, who was alſo maſter of the houſe, with great alacrity agreed to provide every accommodation to make us eaſy; and told us humorouſly, "he could make de good roat beef for us, and de good plumb-pudding too." And he kept his word; for, to ſay the truth, there could not be a better table, or more reaſonable, than he conſtantly provided.

The very next day, whilſt Mr. Walker was writing at our inn, to the French captain, to beg him to ſend him his letter of credit, which was in a box with his commiſſion, the people came running into the houſe, all in terror and lamentation! with cries, that "The Floriſſant had blown up; and all the crew were deſtroyed with her." Upon our running out, we found the accident too true in fact; tho' not exactly related. The gunner having taken out the powder, and gone aſhore with it, had left in a private part of the magazine, four barrels, for ſalutes, as he ſaid. The men ſweeping together the loſe powder, which had been ſcattered from the ſtarting of their cartridges into the caſks, and handing down the glaſs lanthorn, which hung in the gun-room, to the people in the magazine, the handle of it, by ſome accident, broke, and the

lamp

lamp fell out upon the floor, among the looſe powder: which taking fire, and communicating itſelf to the four barrels, blew up the whole after-part of the ſhip; in which was the aforeſaid polite and good captain, with all the officers and moſt of the men. The fire afterwards catching the other part of the ſhip, burnt with great fury. This diſmal accident we, tho' an enemy, with great ſorrow and tender feeling beheld. As the French are very expreſſive in all their motions—I would not be ſuppoſed to mean they are more tender in their paſſions—the ſcene was indeed very melancholy. Each one of the croud particularly lamenting ſome friend or relation loſt, at the moment they had prepared their welcome to their homes; and all in general condoling the common loſs, and public calamity to their country. The men who were yet on board, in the fore-part of the ſhip alive, cried out for the aſſiſtance of boats, and called for mercy of their countrymen, friends, and relations; which, though it might have been eaſily afforded, was obliged to be denied by thoſe very friends and kinſmen; the weeping ſpectators only of their ſad diſtreſs! For the guns, which had not yet been diſcharged, every minute or two going off, as the fire reached them, made it dangerous to offer aſſiſtance: ſo that their own guns were preſented againſt the breaſts of thoſe they called to their relief. Moſt of the men threw themſelves at laſt into the ſea, ſome few of whom were ſaved. The ſhip having burnt to the water's edge, went down with all her treaſure; having unloaded nothing, ſave part of that burthen which was her greateſt pain, and periſhed in the delivery. Among the many ſpectators, Mr. Walker appeared to me not the leaſt affected: to ſee the tear drop at the misfortune of his enemy, the man to whom by chance of war he, but a few days before, became a priſoner, and now lament him as a friend, made me reflect at the hard fate of war, which brings men together with ſwords directed at each other's breaſts, ignorant of the worth which either boſom may contain: whereas, had happier

opportunity

opportunity placed them within the knowledge of each other, they had lived like beings of humanity, in tender eſtimation of their mutual merits.

By a thronged aſſiſtance of boats, for the ſhip was now gone down, ſeveral people were ſaved; ſome wanting a limb; others worſe torn in various parts of the body, who had caught hold of the firſt floating part of the wreck, which accident had helped them to; fond of preſerving life, tho' mutilated of happineſs, to be hereafter dragged over the earth in aukwardneſs and pain! Among the floating dead bodies, the captain's was eaſily diſcovered, tho' very much cut and burnt; and brought on ſhore, where it had every mark of honour and reſpect paid to its former owner, being laid out in great pomp of funeral ſtate; for the captain had been a man of rank and family.

When we returned to our inn, Mr. Walker found we bore a further part in the general loſs. His letter of credit being burnt, he now wanted the means of his own and our maintenance. The good cook indeed, equally civil, offered our ſupport, till Mr. Walker could receive an anſwer to his letters from England.—But other things were required; which being neceſſary, the want of them would have rendered our ſtay in a ſtrange country, without money, very diſagreeable. He therefore thought it beſt to keep up his intereſt, till his credit could arrive; ſo in the firſt place waited on the governor to pay his compliments of condolance on the late fatal accident. The governor received him with his former politeneſs, at the ſame time aſſuring him, he paid ſuch deference to the recommendation of that good officer, ſo lately and unfortunately gone, that every thing in his power he would do to make him and his whole company happy in their ſituation. And he was juſt to his word. The firſt reſpect ſhewn Mr. Walker, in conſequence of this, was an invitation to attend as a mourner the funeral of the deceaſed captain, which was very grand and ſolemn. This introduced him to the notice of the principal men of the

place;

place; moſt of whom endeavoured to expreſs proofs of their favour, in invitations to their houſes, and other acts of civility; which again gave him an intereſt with many of them, and this again he employed in general to the ſervice of his friends and countrymen: ſo that ſeveral gentlemen and others, whom Mr. Walker had knowledge of in England, were thro' his means, and at his inſtance and requeſt, ſet at liberty, to the amount of above ſixty perſons.

Among the French gentlemen who ſhewed theſe indulgences to Mr. Walker, the fiſcal, who is the perſon that ſettles the cartel, commenced a particular intimacy with him; which gave Mr Walker the opportunity of aſking him, to put his and his officers names in the cartel that was then filling up. This requeſt, tho' with ſome reluctance, he at laſt yielded to; whereby Mr. Walker, whoſe turn for liberty with ours, would not regularly have come round till near a twelve-month, procured the releaſe of himſelf, his officers, and about ſixty of his crew, as well as of ſome others, particularly one Mr. Coates, captain Harman, and ſome other Engliſh gentlemen who had been paſſengers or traders.

I cannot help mentioning, that among the priſoners for whom Mr. Walker at firſt got their liberty on parole, was a peddling Jew, who, by making out a piteous ſtory, introduced himſelf to his notice and compaſſion. Mr. Walker had unſucceſsfully applied to many merchants there to be ſupplied with money for bills, who with all the politeneſs of the French, yet caution of their own country, refuſed him, all in the ſame ſtory, " that credit would be very hard to be found, on account that the ſecretary to — lately in much the like circumſtances, had freely found credit for his bills, and that every one of them had come back proteſted." Thus giddy men often think their bad actions end at the point where they loſe ſight of them; but it is not ſo: the injury they do to thoſe, who intend better, runs often too great a length, by the prejudice and taints they leave in the minds of others. This Jew one day took an opportunity of

pulling

pulling Mr. Walker by the ſleeve, and telling him, "He knew his want of money; but that he had a bar of gold and forty guineas ſecreted about him, at his ſervice." Theſe were ſewed up in the waiſt-band of his breeches, which was perhaps the only part of his whole garb that had a regular ſtitch in it, ſo miſerably was he accoutered in rags and patches. Thus was our generous commander, with all his dependants, relieved by the poor beggar, who petitioned his humanity but a few days before; which is a leſſon to our doing all the good in general we can, as we do not know whence the reward will be, often from the hand leaſt expected. Whether the bar of gold had force or virtue enough to break thoſe of iron, I will not take on me to ſpeak; all I ſhall ſay is, that Mr. Walker, after paying the honeſt cook his bill, who I dare ſay was as ſincere in his profeſſions of ſorrow to part with us, as he was in thoſe of joy at ſeeing our arrival, delivered us off from our ſtate of nine weeks bondage, like Moſes's poor brick-making colony, to the land of liberty; and was he to have ſet up a new religion, I dare ſay the poor Jew would have changed his faith.

Our company, which were inliſted under the direction of Mr. Walker, were about ſeventy, beſides thoſe of the cartel, who were upwards of three hundred. Our journey was to Morlaix, and but two guineas amongſt our party, which were in Mr. Walker's pocket, reſerved for an addition to our accommodation at the half-way-houſe; Morlaix being about thirty miles from Breſt. When we reached Morlaix the next day, the firſt thing Mr. Walker did was to go ſee the cartel ſhip, as there was ſo great numbers to go in her. She was one of the licenced veſſels from Whitehaven with tobacco, the owner of which had contracted to carry three hundred people: but Mr. Walker at firſt ſight refuſed to go in her himſelf, or to let any of his people hazard themſelves in her bottom, ſhe being very old and unſafe, not above an hundred and twenty tons, unable to hold one half of the number. And as the jail diſtemper was among the croud of priſoners,

ſoners, Mr. Walker on that account alſo was reſolved not to riſque himſelf or party in her: but ſeeing a little pleaſure yacht lying on the ſhore, which had been run away with by ſome French priſoners, who had made their eſcape in her from Plymouth, and finding upon inquiry ſhe was to be ſold, and being told the owner's name, a merchant of great note in the place, he reſolved upon purchaſing her. "Alas! Sir, cries captain Harman, do you think of purchaſing ſhips without a guinea in your pocket, as we all know the laſt went for the laſt night's ſupper? Rather, ſir, ſet your invention to work how to get us a dinner." O! ſays Mr. Walker, the firſt thing we muſt do after the purchaſe is to victual her, and then you may all dine aboard." Sir, replies Mr. Harman, I fear we ſhall find a neceſſity for eating before then, as it may be a work of time before you make your purchaſe. And if you take us from the cartel, we ſhall all be ſtruck off the king's allowance." "Well then, ſays Mr. Walker, if you think there is an obſolute neceſſity for my firſt filling your bellies, let us go look at the ſigns of the town, and find out the beſt hearts in the place from the ſignals at their doors." We had not gone far in ſearch of ſome viſible ſigns of hoſpitality, before we diſcovered the Engliſh arms. "There, ſays he, is the flag of *good entertainment*, gentlemen; will you pleaſe to dine with me at our countryman's?" We all crouded into the houſe, and found the landlord was an Iriſhman, a circumſtance which anſwered our expectation. "Countryman, ſays Mr. Walker at the firſt ſalute, do you bid me welcome? I am come to dine with you." The landlord well perceiving who we were, and having certainly a reſpect to the appearance of Mr. Walker, very politely anſwered, "Sir, I do." "I take you at your word, replied Mr. Walker; for I am very hungry, and tho' no monſter came to eat you up, yet have ſeventy mouths, and we are as naked as to money as any beaſt of the foreſt: but to ſpeak in plain terms, what I aſk of you is to accommodate us whilſt we ſtay, and take my bills." "Sir, ſays he,

carrying

carrying his politeneſs ſtill farther, I take your word; yourſelf and ſome few I'll endeavour to make happy in my own houſe, the reſt I'll provide for in out-lodgings." I mention theſe particulars to ſhew, that if our countrymen, thro' bigotry, prejudice, or accident, ſettle amongſt our enemies, yet they ſeldom loſe their native honeſty of heart to their fellow-countrymen; but rather add to that the polite embelliſhments of out-ſide addreſs, learned from their neighbours. Dinner being over and a chearful glaſs to our country, in which our landlord with much ſincerity ſeemed to join us, Mr. Walker took captain Harman, Mr. Coates, and ſome others of us to the merchant, about the aforeſaid purchaſe. A French gentleman, who was alſo in the houſe, and was informed of our intention, offered to go with us to introduce us. The merchant carried the French politeneſs yet farther than we had already ſeen it, by inſiſting to ſpeak to us in Engliſh only, which was ſo bad and broken, as ſcarce at firſt to be underſtood. However, he agreed to take Mr. Walker's bills for the yacht, and after ſerving us with wine and a collation of ſweet meats, "Pray, jantilſmans, ſays he, can you know very well at Breſt one Maiſter Vaker, what you call his name?" Sir, this is the gentleman, ſays captain Harman, pointing to Mr. Walker." "O my dear ſir, replies the French gentleman, taking Mr. Walker in his arms, me have de letter to pay you and all de good jantilſmans here, your officers, for your liberty; me have alſo de commiſſion for de letter of credit for you, &c." This interview and account were no doubt very acceptable; ſo that with all the merchant's broken Engliſh, we never underſtood plain Engliſh better. Mr. Walker's owners, Arthur Oldſworth, of Dartmouth, Eſq; and others, knowing by the Mars, which was retaken and carried back to England, and which they repurchaſed, in what part Mr. Walker was, immediately ſent letters of credit to their friends at St. Malo's; who ſent to this gentleman theirs of an unlimited credit, to be forwarded for Mr. Walker at Breſt, with direc-

tions

tions to purchaſe his and any two of his officers liberty whom he ſhould chuſe, and to offer for them two priſoners for one. I cannot help here making an obſervation on the French manners before we take leave of their country, that tho' their complaiſance on the firſt acquaintance appears to be the expreſſion of a firſt-ſighted friendſhip, for they never ſuppoſe ill of a character introduced to them, whereas the Engliſhman, who is as civil in the end, always withholds his till he is aſſured you deſerve it; yet when they receive any more certain intelligence of the worth of their new acquaintance, they double that civility to a pitch almoſt inconceivable to thoſe who have not taſted the growth of it, like their fruits, in its own country; for it certainly loſes much in the tranſplanting: ſo this gentleman, from an eaſy politeneſs, which was before very engaging, took on him at once the endearing familiarity of a friend, inſiſted on our ſupping, lying, and in ſhort living at his houſe whilſt we ſtaid at Morlaix. And he certainly was in earneſt; for though with great difficulty Mr. Walker got off that part of the invitation, which he imagined might be moſt troubleſome to him, that of lying at his houſe; yet he kept us to ſupper, and afterwards conducted us to other entertainments, all of which were hoſpitable and elegant. Perhaps it may be ſaid, the complaiſance paid to us was in reſpect to the letters of his correſpondents at St. Malo's, (I did not ſee them) or a policy to recommend the ſpirit of his country to our remembrance, and report in our own. If ſo, it was a public ſpirit: but make what excuſe you will for politeneſs, it is in itſelf ſo humanely elegant and good, eſpecially to ſtrangers in a foreign country, and enemies too, that, like virtue, it is intrinſic in itſelf, let the motive from whence it comes be what it will. Mr. Walker generouſly made uſe of this his new-gotten credit to the general ſervice of his friends. Every gentleman preſent or left behind at our inn took what particular ſum he wanted, the yacht was paid for, other neceſſary money taken; and thus every

man,

man, with money in his pocket, returned to our king's arms; where the poor Jew was paid his money and the golden wedge, and the generous landlord had ample reward and reſpect paid him in return, during our ſtay at Morlaix. The cartel ſhip ſet ſail in four days, with her numbers packed like bale goods in her hold. Our ſtay in getting our new veſſel fitted up was eight days: but how great was our opinion of French hoſpitality yet raiſed, after the former civility of the French merchant, to find it carried even beyond the limits of his own houſe. The yaul, as ſoon as ready, was found ſtored with wines of various kinds and the beſt ſorts, ſweetmeats, cakes, freſh proviſions, eggs, fowls, hams, &c. more than ſufficient for our number and voyage.

Whilſt we were taking leave of this generous benefactor, with ſuch expreſſions of thanks as were the beſt evidence of our gratitude, he ſlipt a letter of unlimited credit into Mr. Walker's hands, in caſe of our being put back into any port in France. We ſet ſail from Morlaix, February 15, 1745. But the veſſel having lain ſome time in the ſun, and her ſeams not having been properly or well caulked, a matter wherein the common workmen's honeſty did not equal their betters politeneſs, we ſtruck over to the iſland of Guernſey, the wind taking us ſhort and the weather ſtormy. There, not being willing to ſpare time for repairing the faults of our yacht, Mr. Walker being at all times more apprehenſive of the bottom of his ſhip than that of his men, he ſold her at but one guinea loſs. From thence we ſet ſail in an Engliſh veſſel, and arrived all ſafe and well at Weymouth, February 28th, and Mr. Walker went by land to Dartmouth, which he reached March the ſecond.

I believe every officer and gentleman paid Mr. Walker's ſervices the thanks they owed him, in the mentioning of his name. I have had the pleaſure to hear Mr. Walker ſay, that every ſhilling he had advanced on his own credit to the various gentlemen

and

and others at Morlaix, was with honour and due punctuality returned to him.

I muſt not forget, that at Guernſey we found on the ſtrand the main top-maſt of the Victory, which was loſt, with her mark, and the name *Victory* on it. I mention this, as I have very lately heard it doubted, whether any proofs of her being wrecked had come on ſhore.

CHAP. VII.

The equipment of the Boſcawen private ſhip of war; an attempt made to ſeduce the men; and the conſequences thereof.

MR. Walker's coming to Dartmouth ſo much ſooner than was expected, was an agreeable ſurpriſe to his owners; who, having repurchaſed the Mars, were already fitting her out againſt his arrival for a new cruiſe with the Boſcawen; whoſe captain being accuſed by his own people of ill conduct in the engagement with the French frigate before mentioned, and now having brought in his ſhip before the time of her cruiſe was finiſhed, had altogether ſo incurred their diſpleaſure, as to be diſcarded from any further command. Mr. Walker, as he thought the Mars, though a fine and ſtout ſhip, a ſlow ſailor, now made choice of the Boſcawen; and the command of the Mars was given to Mr. John Bowden, who had been Mr. Walker's firſt lieutenant. The Boſcawen had been a French man of war, and the firſt we took from the enemy in the laſt war, called the Medea, taken by captain Boſcawen, lately admiral; a prime ſailor, of beautiful conſtruction; one hundred and fifteen feet in her keel, and thirty-eight feet in her beam, mounted originally twenty-eight guns, nine pounders, but was altered by Mr. Walker to thirty guns, twelve and nine pounders upon one deck, having on board three hundred and fourteen men.

While ſhe was fitting out, ſeamen flocked from all quarters to enter on board; but an accident happened here, which I have thought deſerves a relation.

Some perſons of Exeter, particularly Mr. Coates, brother to the gentleman of the ſame name whom Mr. Walker had releaſed from the French priſon, and brought with him to England, fitting out at the ſame time two private ſhips of war, the Exeter and George, one of their captains, Mr. Tailor, finding what crouds of ſeamen flocked to Dartmouth, while they were in great want of men at Exeter, thought of a ſtratagem to bring over ſome of the Boſcawen's men; which was that of pretending his owners had a tranſport ſhip to ſend off with felons, ſome of whom he ſaid had eſcaped from them, and entered on board the Boſcawen; and ſo begged leave to ſearch the ſhip under that colour, to take opportunity of ſeducing away our men. Mr. Walker immediately gave orders to his commanding officer for liberty to Mr. Tailor of going on board, declaring he meant no protection to ſuch people. The artifice ſo far ſucceeded; but his power of bribing not going farther than the opportunity of ſpeaking to two or three of the men, theſe took ſome guineas from him, and promiſed to bring with them a greater number, having ſtipulated for the promiſed reward. Among theſe was one John Cabel, the principal. When Mr. Tailor had taken leave, as not finding any of the felons pretended to be inquired after, John Cabel appointed ſeventeen of the men, whom he picked out for his purpoſe, to meet him at a place of rendezvous. The gang being met, Cabel, who was a remarkable punſter, and the wit of the crew, addreſſed his comrades, (the ſpeech I had given me written by himſelf, nothing altered except ſome liberties we have taken in the ſpelling) "Gentlemen, you know my name is Cabel, you'll ſay a good name for a ſailor; well, gentlemen, if you'll truſt to this *cabel*, it ſhall be a *ſheet cabel* of profit to you. There has been *a poor taylor* on board our noble captain's ſhip, endeavouring to *take meaſure* of our

loyalty to the noble captain; that is, gentlemen, to *liſt* us in the ſervice of one Mr. *Coates*. Now, my boys, to *ſuit* him in his own *cut*, ſuppoſe we *patch up* a kind of a ſcheme to be *paid for work* we ſhall never do, and then *ſheer off*. I have got three guineas here, with which we will to-night make merry, and then think upon it to-morrow." This oration was received with an huzza of applauſe, and every man followed his leader. At the ſpending the money, when inſpired by the goodneſs of the ale, they deviſed a ſcheme to go to Mr. Tailor at Exeter, every hand to take his money, and then bring off moſt of the men already inliſted with him, to compleat the number then ſtill wanted for the Boſcawen; "for which we ſhall again, ſays the politic Cabel, be rewarded by our worthy maſters at home." The remainder of the money carried them all to Exeter; where having ſo far put their ſcheme in execution, as to receive the money for entering, three guineas each man; a countryman of the place, who ſaw them enter, and heard captain Tailor brag of his artifice, coming to Dartmouth, immediately acquainted Mr. Walker with this circumſtance. He calling a muſter of his men, and finding the number miſſing, was juſtly enraged at the low cunning of Mr. Tailor; and ſent off an officer and party of men, with directions, for the preſent only, to ſee whether they were his men, and to ſend an expreſs of it to him; which coming the next morning with a confirmation "that they were," Mr. Walker immediately went poſt to Exeter, and took his ſurgeon with him, in caſe of any accident happening among the men, which might want his aſſiſtance. But the renowned Cabel and his men, having from the party ſent before, got ſome intelligence of Mr. Walker's coming, planted themſelves to meet him, about a mile from the city; where they ſtopped the chaiſe, and gave him three cheers, when Mr. Cabel, ſtepping foremoſt, began a ſpeech. "Noble Sir, we hope you do not doubt our honour; we are true, Sir, and that you ſhall ſee if you let us alone a little

to

to ourſelves; you ſhall ſee we will man you out immediately, with all the beſt men on board the Exeter. Do, Sir, truſt to my management. By G—— we are men of ſtrict honour, but we love money and a joke, the two beſt things in the world, next to a whore and fighting." Mr. Walker ſeeing ſome humour and confidence in the fellow's manner of expreſſion, could not tell what to make of the whole, but ordered them to meet him at the Swan, where he would ſet up. On his way thither, though under no neceſſity of being beholden for a man of theirs to fit out his own ſhip, it being pretty near compleated as to numbers; yet he conſidered, that as his proprietors were equipping the Mars and Dartmouth, which wanted men, and were in every other reſpect almoſt ready for the ſea, he would, if poſſible, bring off what men he could, in order to requite the very ungenteel treatment he had received from Mr. Tailor. When he came to his inn, he met there his officers and former gang, who acquainted him that his men were really honeſt to him, but had been aboard the other ſhips lying at Topſham, where they had received both money and cloaths; and that they could, if he pleaſed, bring away moſt of the whole crew. Before Mr. Walker had well refreſhed himſelf, the ſeventeen men alſo came up; but, being met by Mr. Coates's clerk, a French gentleman, who alſo had got notice of Mr. Walker's arrival, at the rendezvous, were very paſſionately accoſted by him, and ordered to get to their ſhip; as for Mr. Tailor, he never once appeared. "Get you ways, you raſcals, ſays the French clerk; you ſhall all be taken priſoners in de country here, if you do not go on board to your own quarters in de ſhip." By this time Mr. Walker having ſignified his conſent to his officer, and he again giving the men an hint, a ſingle wink had been enough, like a word to the wiſe, away they, in ſeeming duty, ſped on board.

Mr. Walker ſeeing this new kind of claim to his men, ſo audaciouſly ſet up even in his preſence,

could

could not help growing angry, though he for a time permitted it; and upon inquiry, finding the French petit-commandant to be clerk to Mr. Coates, he ſent a meſſage to Mr. Coates, that he would be glad to ſpeak with him. Mr. Coates immediately deſired his company at his houſe, where he at the firſt interview expreſſed great obligations for the favour Mr. Walker had ſhewn his brother, repeating the circumſtance we have already mentioned; but Mr. Walker, who had his breaſt full of other buſineſs to be ſettled, anſwered, he had no compliments to pay in return, and would receive none from him; and then ſet forth his complaints of Mr. Tailor's behaviour. Mr. Coates aſſured him of his ignorance of the matter, as a buſineſs intirely left to the officer they truſted to. "Yes, Sir, replies Mr. Walker, but if your officer has made a wrong ſtep, you and the other owners muſt abide the conſequences." Mr. Coates then offered him his own men back. "No, Sir, ſays Mr. Walker again, 'tis the affront done my ſhip, in the ſeduction of my men, that I am angry at. I'll not have a man returned me through compulſion: but my officer here ſhall, with your leave, go on board with a ſingle guinea; and as many as will follow that, to drink my health, I will never part with." Leave being given and taken on all ſides, the officer was ſent on board; but Mr. Walker ſoon after had information given him, that ſome of the proprietors, or ſome acting perſon under them, had firſt ſent a round of two guineas more to each man of the ſeventeen; and their own men inſiſting on the like, they gave them alſo the ſame, being in number upwards of an hundred men. This no doubt gave Mr. Walker freſh uneaſineſs, as he now began to fear for the ſteadineſs of his men. And though he had power of out-bidding any price, yet conſidering the leſs a victory coſts, the greater it is, he reſolved to wait the iſſue. To be ſhort, Mr. Walker's officer went on board, threw down the guinea; three huzzas were ſent round the ſhip, *to Walker and the Boſ-*

cawen for ever, and a compleat hundred men, including the ſeventeen, followed him out of the ſhip. Mr. Walker getting notice, that all the men were coming aſhore, haſtened to them, and met them juſt landed; and inſtead of conducting them, was himſelf by them conducted to the place of rendezvous, with a ſufficient compliment of huzzas through crouds of ſpectators, who, all inquiſitive of the cauſe, were ſoon inſtructed, ſo as to form a right judgment of the matter, by the induſtrious explanations of the victorious Cabel and his crew.

Towards evening, a gentleman of the town, who was ſome civil officer, and the ſame French clerk, came to Mr. Walker, and inſiſted, in the proprietors names, on Mr. Walker's ſending back their men; "that on refuſal, the army, as there then was a regiment in the town, ſhould be ſent for to force him." This language little prevailed on a gentleman whoſe method it was, as he ſaid, "When he drew his ſword, to throw away the ſcabbard; and that his reſolution was to ſtand by the men, who would do ſo by him; that all who could fight their way he would carry off, the reſt they might keep." He then immediately gave orders, as there was a wood adjacent, that every man ſhould cut down a good ſappling, which, as he ſaid, he ſuppoſed they could give the army no commiſſion to fire, would be a weapon eaſier managed than the but-end of a muſket. This order was with great expedition complied with; and ſome who were Hercules's in zeal, provided themſelves with clubs greater than their abilities could wield. Mr. Walker ſoon got them back again in order into an out-houſe in the inn to ſupper; where the guinea was firſt drank in form, which was the only money they would admit to be ſpent on them, every man having guineas of his own in his pocket. Here they provided themſelves with fiddles and other diverſions of the night; at the relation of which I could venture, as an entertainment

tertainment again for the reader; if it did not deviate from the buſineſs of the ſtory.

Mr. Walker ſat up in the houſe all night, in caſe of any diſturbance or ſurpriſe; and having in the mean time ſecured all the hack-horſes in the town, againſt morning, to the number of about ſeventy, he, after breakfaſt, about eight o'clock, led off the men regularly by the boatſwain's call, and went himſelf into his poſt-chaiſe at the end of the town, where he had ordered it with the horſes, the men mounting themſelves to the beſt advantage. They who firſt could get on horſeback, and ride off, were happieſt, ſometimes two got but one horſe between them; and ſometimes a third contented for a third ſhare; and they who could not get any ſhare of his back laid claim to the tail. But here it was immediately neceſſary for Mr. Walker, in common humanity to horſe-fleſh, to give a new order, counter to the preceding one of the evening before, "That each man ſhould throw away his club of defence, and take to him in its place a ſwitch of expedition; elſe certainly they would have knocked down one half of their horſes, or broke their bones, ere half their journey had been performed." Which order alſo, by diſmounting many a cavalier, gave a new chance to all parties ſtowing themſelves more regularly upon the decks. Never ſure was officer attended with better hearts, and yet ſo out of character, as Mr. Walker was at this time, by his ſailors turned cavalry. All who, except his own party and a few who ſtaid with him, through the deſire of their horſes or badneſs of their riding, flew forward in a cloud of duſt, like a kind of marine huſſars; ſo that the poſt-chaiſe and four horſes, though going at its uſual courſe, after the rate of ten knots an hour, dropped aſtern. This great expedition, beſides the natural love of making uſe of a fair wind, which is their opinion of jockyſhip, as long as the beaſt has a breath of wind under them, was meant chiefly as a compliment to Mr. Walker, to get dinner ready againſt his coming to the inn; at which they intended

to bait, and whither a ſmall party, by order of Cabel, had been diſpatched with proviſions over night, truſting to the inn for ſome additions. They of the moſt elegant taſte among them, having laid their heads together to conſult the gentility of the table, as it was their good luck to find it market-day, ſet him down, his lieutenant, ſurgeon, and the land-lady, at the end of the table, in good hoſpitality to a leg of pork and cabbage at the head, a boiled but-tock of beef and carrots at the foot, a boiled leg of mutton and turnips on one ſide, a roaſted ſhoulder and potatoes on the other, and a peaſe-pudding in the middle. At the top of the ſecond courſe was a hind quarter of lamb boiled with ſpinnage, and three or four loins broiled in chops heaped around it, a ſirloin of beef roaſted at the bottom; apple-pie on one ſide, apple-dumplings on the other, and a huge plumb-pudding in the middle. As this was meant a general treat, happy was the Jack, as they would all wait and ſhew their ſervice, who could give his captain a glaſs of wine; though the moſt of them as yet knew him only by the report of their fellows, which is a ſurer character to them than a certificate from the lords of the admiralty. And as the humour could not be prevented, Mr. Walker entered into it with a ſpirit that kept up his own character, and yet gained their eſteem of his affability. Of which, notwithſtanding their own roughneſs, they are as good judges as any people in the world, and can as well diſtinguiſh an exactneſs of command from ſeve-rity. But to return to the table: Mr. Walker, after drinking ſome general toaſts, which were conſtantly attended with three cheers in the place of muſick, and making them many offers of wine, &c. in return to their hearty invitation, all which through down-right liberality of ſoul were refuſed, at laſt thought of a preſent, of which they accepted as a very neceſ-ſary one, though yet unthought of, that of a dinner to each of their horſes: ſo ordering half a peck to each horſe, the whole company were all at one time

happy

happy in *good entertainment*, according to the ſign-poſt, *for man and horſe*.

Among the obligations Mr. Walker owed to his men, I cannot forget one favour aſked of them; and which was in their turn ſtrictly obſerved, to a wonder you will ſay, and that was, "that no man ſhould get drunk, but come to their proprietors ſober." I have dwelled upon theſe particulars I hope not too long, to ſhew that an evenneſs of command will generally guide theſe kind of men to a ſtrict obſervance of orders; which happy art of directing has been the great characteriſtic of the gentleman we ſpeak of; and proved his own and men's deliverance in the courſe of his command more than once. The time of departing being come, the cavalcade ſet out anew. Mr. Walker, and ſome invalids in that part to which nature has appointed the office of giving reſt to all other parts of the body, bringing up the rear, the whole corps arrived ſafe before night, at Dartmouth; without one deſertion, without one man's being in liquor, without one accident, except ſome tumbles over the fore-caſtle of the horſe, or a ſlip or two off the ſtern.

We muſt end this chapter with obſerving, that ever after this accident, Mr. Cabel had great deference and reſpect paid him among the crew, for his judgment and ſagacity; and he made a good ſailor and brave fellow, till like ſome other great men, he fell at laſt a real prey to gold. Of which in its place; and thus the Boſcawen was at once fitted out with a number of picked men for the enſuing cruiſe: in which, as they were all deſerving ſharers, ſo we may ſay, that each contributed to its ſucceſs.

CHAP. VIII.

The first cruise of the Boscawen private ship of war; her taking the Martinico fleet; and her return to Bristol.

THE Boscawen being ready for the sea, Mr. Walker chose not to wait either for the Mars or Dartmouth; and accordingly on April the 19th, 1745, we sailed from Dartmouth, perhaps, the most compleat privateer ever sent from England.

Among the several amendments and alterations, contrived in her by Mr. Walker, for the convenience of engaging, and other matters; I cannot help taking notice of one, which might be of infinite service in general, as particularly instrumental to our success.

This was an intire new construction of our quarters; as they were here raised with elm, in the place of nettings, man high, and small shot proof, with a step below for the marines to mount on and fire, and then stand off again to load. By this means the ship was always ready for an engagement, and could not be surprised; whereas the business in other ships of fitting up their hammocks throws the men into an hurry; whilst the time thereby taken up could be better used in other dispositions of affairs, too much hastened over; if not, too often neglected. I have heard an objection made at home to this contrivance; which, least it may be again started, I will answer, "That the large shot may tear the planks to pieces, and the splinters hurt the men worse than the small shot could do." The elm yields to the large balls, which leave an hole so small, the elm swelling back to its place, as scarce afterwards to be believed the passage of the ball, without ever splintering. This Mr. Walker first proved, before he set them up: but I speak from a further knowledge of seeing them experienced.

May the 23d, in the evening, we fell in with the Sheerness private ship of war, Captain Parnell, of twenty-

twenty-two guns; who kept us company for the night. By break of day the next morning, in latitude forty-six and forty-seven, longitude fourteen and fifty west from the Lizard, we made eight sail of ships, to which we gave chace; and we going much better than the Sheerness, left her so far behind, that she could not so much as come up to us, or be of any assistance during the ensuing action. About nine o'clock the enemy formed a line, and waited our coming up; we then drawing nearer, saw they were all ships of force: and though on our side every thing was prepared for engaging; yet I believe, not a man in the ship thought of coming to one, the Sheerness being quite astern. Mr. Walker then, perhaps, perceiving some suspence among his officers, as waiting his determination, delivered himself to us, nearly in these words: "Gentlemen, I hope you do not think the number of prizes before us too many. Be assured, by their being armed, they have something on board them worth defending: for I take them to be merchantmen with letters of marque, and homeward-bound; without doubt we shall meet with some opposition; in which I have not the least doubt of your courage: but I see we must here conquer also by a master-ship of skill. Be cool, and recollect every man his best senses: for as we shall be pressed on all sides, let every man do his best in engaging the enemy he sees before him; and then one side need not fear or take thought for the other. In a word, gentlemen, if you give me your voices for my leading you on, I pawn my life to you, I will bring you off victorious." Being seconded by a spirit of approbation throughout the whole ship, which could not but elevate his own courage, he then made the proper disposition of his officers, giving them strict orders "that, let them receive what fire they might from the other ships, they should not fire a single gun, till he gave the word." So bore up directly to the larger ship of the enemy; (which, by her throwing out signals to the others, he judged to be the commodore);

dore) well knowing that nothing promiſed him ſucceſs ſo much as attacking cloſe.

I forgot to mention, that notwithſtanding the ſhortneſs of the time ſince we left England, we had upwards of ſixty of our men on the ſick liſt. Theſe, all except three, crawled up upon deck, and though of little ſervice, yet would they at leaſt behold the action.

As we were coming up to the enemy, with all our ſails ſet, the whole number of ſhips kept firing their ſtern-chace at us; by which we loſt our mizen-top-maſt, and had our rigging much ſhattered. When we came up to the ſternmoſt ſhip, we received her broadſide, and thoſe of the two ſhips next to her, as we paſſed them, without returning a ſingle gun; making up to the commodore in the center. And now about eleven o'clock, getting cloſe to him, we began the engagement, pouring our broadſide full into him. This was as fully returned, he having a ſtout ſhip of twenty-four guns: They then broke their line of battle, and attacked us, two on each ſide, and one athwart our fore-foot. The ſternmoſt ſhip of the line, *La Victorie*, which was the ſmalleſt, of ten guns, alſo came under our ſtern, and poured her broadſide into us, by way of raking us; but being injured by our ſtern guns, ſhe run out of our reach, and ſtruck. Thus was the engagement carried on by five ſhips only, the two, which were moſt a-head, going off, and in this ſituation was continued againſt us for a full hour, firing our broadſides, from each ſide at once, upon the two on each quarter, and they theirs as warmly into us; our bow-chace alſo keeping the one athwart our fore-foot in good play; we alſo kept a perpetual firing of our ſmall arms. Yet was this engagement, in which ſeveral accidents happened to us, chiefly in our rigging, ſuſtained on our part without confuſion or any diſorder, throughout the whole. Every man went on with his own buſineſs, in his own department; and the word of command was obſerved, with a regularity almoſt inconceivable, through the diſpoſition firſt made by

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Mr. Walker, in fixing every man to his proper ſtation, with diſtinct orders to each part of the ſhip. Nor was there one man or officer behaved amiſs either in courage or obeying commands; nor indeed did any one ſeem to excel another in either; the whole appearing rather a buſineſs conducted, than an accident of fighting.

In about three quarters of an hour from our firſt engaging, we perceived the commodore's ſhip greatly diſabled, for we planted our greateſt fire againſt him, all his maſts and rigging being entirely carried away; at length his ſhip having received ſeveral ſhots under water, he fell back from under our cannon, and ſtruck. The engagement was ſtill continued by the reſt. In leſs than ten minutes after ſtriking, the ſhip went down. Here was a new ſcene, of perſons floating in the ſea on various parts of the wreck, which they, who could attain, thought themſelves happieſt in diſtreſs, as fortunate to lay hold of: this a while ſuſpended the fight. We then and then only were in an hurry, to haſten our aſſiſtance of the barge: for the boats were intirely ſhot away: but we were ſoon convinced it was out of our power, ſo ſoon to commence friends; for the four other ſhips, ſeeing our ſhip alſo ſo much hurt in her rigging, it being almoſt torn to pieces, renewed their attack with greater fury: ſo that we were obliged to return to buſineſs; whilſt the poor floaters in the ſea were otherwiſe unaſſiſted, except only by the boat of the *La Victoire*; which was immediately hoiſted out to them, and took up about twenty ſix of the people, ſaved on the looſe yards and other pieces of the wreck. This new attack laſted very hot on both ſides, for near half an hour, the one making the onſet, as the laſt effort for their liberty; and we knowing if we ſtood the ſhock, our victory would be acknowledged compleat. At laſt one of the ſhips, being totally diſabled, ſtruck; and then the reſt followed, as faſt as they could, one after another; all in ſhattered plight! each of them having behaved with great courage and equal reſolution.

By this time the Sheerneſs came up, and ſeeing the work over, judiciouſly went in purſuit of the other two ſhips, who firſt made ſail at the beginnnig of the engagement. One of which ſhe took, and brought back; the other got off.

The ſhips which ſtruck to us, beſides the one taken by the Sheerneſs, were, as we at firſt ſuppoſed, all home-ward bound Martinico men, each having a letter of marque, and being a ſhip of force, *viz.*

		Guns	Men
Duke de Guienne	Captain L'Eſtourier	18	65
La Victoire	Captain Brulle	10	38
Le Bell Louis	Captain Fromentin	14	43
St. Andrees	Captain Gautier	18	54
L'Abraham	Captain Berthome	14	46
La Jeune Marie	Commodore, ſunk	24	84

The enemy had one hundred and thirteen men killed and loſt; fifty eight of whom were on board the commodore, and fifty five among the other ſhips. On our ſide was but one man killed, and ſeven wounded; apparently owing to the new conſtruction of our quarters, as ſpoke of before. However, we and the whole fleet were ſo diſabled that we were obliged to lie to, for forty eight hours, before we could make any ſail upon our ſhip or thoſe of the enemy. And now we had but few or none ſick men, they having been rouſed in the courſe of the action into health; which proves, what I have before occaſionally obſerved, the great power the ſpirits have in cures of the body.

Among the people who were ſaved from the wreck was the commodore himſelf, and which was very remarkable, an old lady, a perſon of ſome diſtinction, and who was a paſſenger from Martinico, floating at ſome diſtance on a bag of cotton; which had been put up in the nettings, and is ſuppoſed to have got looſe. When the captains and other French officers were coming on board our ſhip, it was told Mr. Walker, that the commodore had been taken up from

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the wreck; at which he expreſſed great joy; and when he came on board, Mr. Walker took him by the hand; and, without waiting for further ceremony, led him into his cabin. Here was a ſcene opened which required the exerciſe of his own natural humanity, and the imitation alſo of the politeneſs he himſelf had met with from the French, when in the like ſituation. Such is the great change of things! the priſoner of yeſterday may be maſter of to-day. And ſuch in general is the happy conſequences of generous actions, that tho' the firſt giver may not always ſee their effect, yet if we trace them forward, we ſhall ſeldom find they die, but return their produce to ſome other hand. The old lady was now brought into the cabin, in great diſhabille of dreſs. She at once threw herſelf at Mr. Walker's feet, and wept there in great agonies; fearing ſhe was to be treated as cruelly on board the Engliſh ſhip, as ſhe had been by them in her own: till raiſed by him, and aſſured of her preſent ſafety, of which ſhe ſeemed to be more convinced by his countenance and addreſs to her, than by his words; ſhe cries out, "And, O good heavens! Is this bloody conqueror a man of humanity?" In mentioning ſo particularly the gentleneſs of the French to us, when in their power, I imagined it might be ſo far uſeful and agreeable, as it informed the readers of the manners and policy of another country, in a ſituation of ſuperiority, to thoſe below them: but I have ſeveral reaſons to paſs over in ſilence many paſſages of politeneſs and generoſity, between Mr. Walker and his priſoners: firſt, as my relating them will be little inſtruction to my countrymen, who do not ſuſpect any want of humanity among themſelves. Secondly, as I do not apprehend my work will be tranſlated into any of the neighbouring languages, it will be no information to ſtrangers. And laſtly, I know Mr. Walker is prepared to quarrel with me, whenever I ſay a word, that ſeems to throw any compliment on himſelf. I will ſay only, that Mr. Walker having given the commodore a new ſuit of his cloaths, with other neceſſary equipments,

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and the old lady a ſilk night gown, ſome fine linen waiſtcoats, cambrick nightcaps, &c. in which ſhe appeared a kind of Hermaphrodite in dreſs, left them for full twenty hours ſolely in poſſeſſion of his cabin and ſtate-room, giving them his ſteward as a ſervant to produce every thing under his care, needed for their accommodation; he himſelf was the whole time buſied in refitting our rigging and thoſe of the other ſhips, ſecuring the priſoners, as alſo in taking care of our wounded men, in which office he always ſuperintended, three of whom afterwards died, and in providing for the ſick and wounded of the enemy. Upon his return, Mr. Walker found his priſoners ſeemingly happy and in ſpirits; nor did he appear there to have more command than the reſt, unleſs in taking on him a greater direction, to have all things prepared for the whole company in the beſt manner, having always all the captains and ſupercargoes at dinner at his table. Thus in a few hours no people could be to all intents in appearance more in good humour than the preſent company, even to a degree of mirth. Mr. Walker had two French horns and other muſick on board, which he was very fond of, but ordered them not to play; as he apprehended any ſhew of mirth in him might look like an inattention to their misfortunes. But the old gentlewoman, who took great pleaſure in going about the ſhip, and commending among other things particularly the neatneſs of our men and ſhip, in compariſon to thoſe of the French, ſeeing them hang up in the ſteerage, inſiſted on their accompanying the dinner, as uſual; and even joined the flutes with her voice in ſinging. In which art, we may ſay, ſhe was a great miſtreſs by nature.

I have often conſidered the etymology of the French word for unhappineſs: they call it, *malheur*, or the evil hour; which denotes their conſideration of it in a light of philoſophy; and is an over-conforming to the Chriſtian-doctrine, as they herein imply; "that ſufficient unto the hour is the evil thereof." I have heard it ſaid, "that this their eaſe under misfortunes is in them a reſpect only for the company preſent."

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If ſo—It ſpeaks yet greater to their politeneſs, than any thing has been ſaid for it, or any other inſtance can be given. And as I did not mean, to carry this compliment of their tempers to an inſenſibility of mind; if the reader will lend attention, we will give, from the words of the old lady, her ſtory; which ſhe in a few days acquaintance told, with very feeling ſtrokes of grief, in the utterance.

The Story of Madam ——.

I Will not entertain you, Sir, with the relation of my birth, family, or the many circumſtances of my love, that brought me to the character of a wife. Let it ſuffice, I virtuouſly loved the beſt and moſt generous of men: but my huſband and ſelf, being each of the younger branches of noble families, diſobliged our friends on both ſides by our marrying. He had been bred up early in the army; and, having there gained ſome rank, was ſoon obliged to leave me, to obey the call of honour to his country; flattering himſelf, that by his ſucceſs there, he ſhould better his fortune for our happier days: as we always affix happineſs to the acquiſition of wealth. But, in the famous battle with your countrymen of Blenheim, having received an hurt, he was taken priſoner, and died among your people of his wounds. He left me with child; yet, thro' the exceſs of my affection to him, I deprived myſelf of the happineſs of having any living remembrance of him brought to perfection; for I miſcarried of a ſon at the end of eight months, thro' a fatigue of travelling to him, and the diſtreſs of my mind, in hearing of the great danger he then was in; fearing he had not a juſt care taken of him among his enemies. He did not die thro' any want in that reſpect: for I reached him ſome weeks before his death; when he gave me aſſurance of the great generoſity of the Engliſh in the care of their priſoners. He died within my arms; and in reſpect to my preſence, and his own diſtinction, the Engliſh buried him with the honours of a ſoldier.

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Thus, in about nine months after our marriage, I was left a widow; and tho' my fortune was not ſufficient to intitle me to any great choice of huſbands; yet I often further diſobliged my own relations, in not ſubmitting myſelf a ſecond time to be diſpoſed of, according to their judgments of happineſs; and I continue his widow to this day. Some months after my return home, a decent and genteel woman came to my houſe, deſiring to ſpeak to me; who, when admitted, introduced in her hand, to my great agony and ſurpriſe, an infant apparition of my deceaſed huſband. The poor woman had no deſign in it; but came only to inquire about the certainty of his death. At laſt, by my taking ſuch notice of the child, ſhe confeſſed to me, to have had formerly an amour with my huſband: which was ſatisfactorily proved to me to have been previous even to his firſt proteſtations of love to me, by the advanced age of the dear little one, who was about five years old. Upon hearing all the circumſtances of the woman's ſtory; and finding her to be juſt entitled to the appellation of gentlewoman, and, as I am no very faſhionable condemner of my own ſex, believing her to have been virtuous and affectionate to him, I could not help ſympathizing in the loſs of the object of both our affections. In ſhort, I immediately laid hold of the boy as my own, and have often ſmiled at myſelf in the remembrance, abſolutely imagining I had a right in him, and ſuch a one, as I dare ſay, I then would have diſputed with half my fortune. But I found the conditions of having him were eaſy, if I provided alſo for the mother: which I did, by immediately taking them both into my family. The child ſoon learned to look upon me as its better mother; and the real one, from my kindneſs to him, ſoon began to believe that my claim to him was greater than her own: and ſhe to her death lived with me, as an agreeable companion, and truſty aſſiſtant in all my family affairs.

'Tis certain, heaven has given us happineſs even in our cares and buſineſs: which by a juſt ſearch of

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it in them we are ſure of finding out. It was ſo in my care of this infant: for as he grew, I found a pleaſing ſenſation, in the duty, I thought I therein diſcharged, to the remembrance of my deceaſed huſband. But I ſhould appear to indulge too much the nature of a mother; if I went on to tell you, how happily that care was repaid in the promiſing genius my boy ſoon diſcovered, and all the accompliſhments he with eaſe to himſelf gained in his education; for I made no ſecret of him to the world: but introduced him to all my friends and relations, as my adopted ſon, and as ſuch I had him reſpected; not but I was ſenſible I often ſtood the cenſure of my relations, and even the ridicule of my acquaintance behind my back, for my conduct. However, as the diſreputation of his birth was a circumſtance that could not be wiped eaſily from him, and as I very early took care to croſs every inclination in him to the army, for I was determined not to riſque my love a ſecond time therein, I reſolved to bring him up to a negotiator (or merchant); and having conſiderably increaſed my little fortune in the Miſſiſippi, juſt before he was out of his time, his maſter offered him a partnerſhip in his buſineſs, provided I would depoſit a proper advance with him; and he go ſettle in the Weſt-Indies, to take on him the management of their affairs in that part of the world. As I was almoſt weary of my own country, and it was an offer too advantageous for him to be refuſed by me, every matter was tranſacted for his advantage; and he ſet out his own maſter, poſſeſſed at once of a good fortune and a large buſineſs, with his two mothers for the Weſt-Indies. We were not long arrived in that country before he received letters from his partner, beſeeching his return to marry his only daughter, who having been in love with him, and taken ſo ill on his departure, was obliged to make a diſcovery to her parents for the ſafety of her life. I found the letter was a very agreeable ſurpriſe to him; and as I was the mother whoſe conſent he thought himſelf the moſt bound to aſk, he quickly obtained my leave for his going back; the young lady being well

well known to, and approved of by me, during my intimacy in the family. In leſs than five months, he returned to us with his wife, and a large addition to his fortune; and ever ſince has increaſed in reputation and wealth, to the great eſteem of the whole place, and my no little pride in his proſperity. The good mother is ſince dead. I ſincerely loved her; and often, in conſidering my regard for her, have thought, that the paſſions which we imagine natives of our conſtitutions, are frequently learned from cuſtom: thus in our chriſtian education, women hate each other for loving the ſame man; whereas in the Mahometan they look on each other as thereby united in relationſhip; and, as having the ſame parent, commence ſiſters in mutual regard.

My ſon's family ſoon increaſed in a number of beautiful children; among which I took a particular love to one, a girl whoſe beauty and endowments of mind made me ſee her with pleaſure the object of univerſal eſteem. Here ſhe broke off. "O! my dear Filia, ſays ſhe, in an heroic agony, as the gods owed one Venus to the ſea, (for ſo this lively matron expreſſed herſelf,) know, my poor mortal has paid that preſent back." After a full diſcharge of tears, which again eaſed her breaſt, ſhe went on. "My ſon's partner dying a few years ago, and his whole fortune, which is very conſiderable, coming to my ſon, in right of his wife, he was obliged to haſten to Europe: which he did juſt before the beginning of the war, leaving his wife and us behind him, till a fitter opportunity of our following him, or his returning to us. As his wife and myſelf grew impatient at his abſence, and women's tempers not always well agreeing in the ſame houſe, I reſolved to ſet out firſt for Europe, both as I wiſhed to end my days in my own country, and, as her parents had intirely made over to me this young beauty, who was now near ſeventeen, I wiſhed to educate her in France, and there to have matched her to ſome perſon of diſtinction; for I intended to have given her my whole fortune, which under my ſon's management is now very largely in-

creaſed,

creaſed. But, alas! how vain are our deſigns of futurity on earth! how uncertain are ſerene days! and what a mixture of misfortunes is daſhed into the cup of happineſs even at our lips! O, Sir, this dear creature lies buried now below us, by the curſed rage of man; that devil of quarrel! which ſtalks between them on this earth, from every petty ſtrife up to war. And as for you, Sir, turning with great indignation to the French commodore, you ought, and perhaps may anſwer your raſh perſevering to engage with an enemy you ſaw ſo much your ſuperior." The gentleman only ſmiled, ſhewing at the ſame time a conſciouſneſs of his having done his duty, and expreſſing a tender pity for his accuſer. But Mr. Walker made anſwer, "Madam, that very conduct you accuſe is what muſt intitle him to the love of every brave man, and to the notice of his country. 'Tis that bravery, which obliges me to uſe him, you, and all, for his ſake, with the reſpect ſuch an enemy demands." "This, Sir, replies the very ſenſible and good lady, is only a man talking of the excellencies of his own trade: but when you hear me out, you will be, perhaps, leſs in love with the beauties of your profeſſion. The morning we firſt ſaw you, a gladneſs ſeemed to reign in the whole ſhip, like that of ſavages at an inhuman banquet, and they uſed a like phraſe, ſaying, that you would not be a breakfaſt for them. But when I ſaw you paſs the other ſhips, I ſaid to the commodore as I ſtood by him, for we expected to have ſeen the engagement begin with them, that you meant to be at him only. And when you came, like the breaking of a cloud with a ſhock of lightning and thunder together, I haſted where I and my poor child were conducted to the place of ſafety. This was a more melancholy ſituation than the other was terrible. Hither they brought the poor bleeding ſailors, one after another, without legs, without arms, roaring with their pains, and laid in heaps to be butchered anew by the ſurgeon, in his haſte and diſpatch of cure or death. Here ſeveral of the objects died at our feet. Thus ſurrounded by the ghaſtly proſpect, all at once,

death

death himſelf came breaking in upon us, thro' the ſide of the ſhip; cut down the ſurgeon and one of his mates, and ſhattered the whole medicine-cheſt in pieces. Here was a total ſuſpenſion of all relief to the poor wounded wretches: death coming, as it were, to reinforce his own orders, and ſtop every means or effort to prevent him. You may judge we ſoon left this place of grief and terror, as it grew alſo a place of danger. When we came out on the decks, there we ſtrode over heaps of dead bodies, or ſlipped in the ſtreams of blood, our hearts dying within us at the proſpect of this hideous ſcene of mangled limbs, ſcattered brains, and every external ſign of horror. Thus we wandered from place to place, calling on our ſaints, and paſſed unhurt thro' all the aſſaults of death; in which we ſaw numbers fall on every ſide of us. At laſt, we heard an uproar, ſtill more dreadful, and diſmal cry tranſmitted along the ſhip; "She'll ſink! ſtrike, ſtrike." This confuſion never ceaſed; ſo that tho' your guns I ſuppoſe were ſilent, we never miſſed their ſound; for now our inward war grew more and more diſtracting, and a worſe terror poſſeſſed the face of every man we met. We were ſoon informed, we muſt in our turn prepare for inſtant death. Here my dear Maria indulged me with her laſt embraces; and claſped in each other's arms we reached the higher deck. I remember her aſking for the boat, and a ſailor anſwering, "If we would ſave ourſelves it muſt be by wings." And ſo ſhe did; for ſhe has winged her flight to heaven. I know nothing after this, nor how we were ſeparated; nor, when the ſhip ſunk, how I graſped at my deliverance: but my dear Maria, I never ſaw more. And tho' I believe I ſoon came to my ſenſes on the float, yet that was riſing to a life worſe than death. In vain I ſearched round for my lovely fair one: but ſaw her not. Yet as I ſaw many float with myſelf on pieces of the wreck, and taken up, I hoped, for hope ſtill attends us even on a wreck in the open ſea, that my dear Maria was among the number; but, alas! ſhe is not." Here her tears and ſilence infected the whole company,

company. At laſt Mr. Walker, taking on him to mention the ſignal acts of providence in her ſafety, which, if it had pleaſed, could have equally preſerved both as one, ſhe with great eaſe, which we may call great good ſenſe, was ſoon cheered, and renewed her ſpeech only to make this genteel concluſion, "That, as her ſtory had found ſo many friends in the company, and been ſo affecting to them, ſhe would in her turn endeavour to promote in mirth the happineſs of the company, to make amends for the pain ſhe had given it."

Tho' we made ſhift to repair in ſome meaſure the damage we had ſuſtained, we were ſtill in a ſhattered condition; as was the whole fleet, except the *La Victoire*. Having a great charge of priſoners, and being moreover weakened by manning the other ſhips, Mr. Walker ſteered for the firſt port in England; and May the 30th, arrived ſafe with all the prizes, in King's Road, Briſtol.

The ſecond day after his arrival, he received a congratulatory letter from the lords of the admiralty, by their ſecretary Mr. Corbet, (for he always correſponded with their lordſhips, as all private ſhips of war are directed to do) deſiring, "That if he met with any papers in thoſe prizes, which might give light into the proceedings or deſigns of the French at Martinico, he would immediately ſend the ſame to them by expreſs;" which was ſtrictly obeyed, there having been found a large parcel of very great conſequence. By which papers alſo Mr. Walker, having been appriſed, that another large fleet was ſoon to ſail from Martinico and St. Domingo, he made all poſſible haſte to repair; ſo that he was intirely employed both in perſon and thoughts on refitting for a ſecond expedition. However fortune, like other ladies of character, does not yield to us in every thing, although ſhe may for a lucky moment ſmile upon us.

A ſufficient number of hands being kept for this purpoſe, the reſt of the men, raiſed, by their ſucceſs and great fortune, to an height of natural ſpirits, beyond what any artificial ones could give, ſwarmed over the

the city in revellings of joy and pleaſure. Tho' many things were committed out of rule; yet by good luck and ſome advice, no diſagreeable accident happened to them, or by them to others. The leiſure-time Mr. Walker could get from the buſineſs of his ſhip, was given in compliment to the old gentlewoman, the French commodore, and others. And herein he was ſo apt a ſcholar, that we may ſay he outdid, in his country, the French generoſity he had met with in theirs. In the firſt place, not the leaſt article of money, utenſils, or cloaths, was taken from any of the officers or men. The French commodore indeed was naked; and what was worſe, ſo was the lady. But Mr. Walker ſupplied him with money, ſuits of cloaths, and all other correſponding neceſſaries, at his landing; he alſo obtained for him his liberty, and that of all the officers and ſupercargoes of the fleet. As for the facetious old lady, ſhe exerciſed her taſte, at the ſame expence, in modelling the great docility of the Briſtol milliners, and mantua-makers, in the polite cuts and miſhapes of the French faſhions, in which ſhe apprehended ſhe had done great ſervices to the country. And as ſhe was deſirous of going much abroad, Mr. Walker hired her a coach to attend on her, the whole time during her ſtay, as her own. Being obliged to go to London, he requeſted the favour of uſing her coach, as far as Bath; and to have the honour of ſtaying a week with her there, that he might ſhew the place to her, the commodore, and another of the captains. The reſt of the French gentlemen had leave afterwards of going by themſelves. The morning Mr. Walker and his company ſet out, they were moſt divertingly and unexpectedly overtaken on the road by a new kind of cavalcade of the honeſt tars, who, having heard that their captain was going to Bath with the French lady, were determined every one to ſhew it to their ladies alſo, as every one, who had not a lady of his own, had bought or borrowed one for the time; and thinking it a compliment to him to ſet out on the ſame day, they were reſolved to make the genteeler figure on

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the occaſion. The generous hearted Jacks, knowing that ribbands are a great part of the ſtate ſhew of a lord-mayor's day, in graceful knots and roſes on the manes and tails of the horſes, were led by the like deſire of gentility to the purchaſe; for the expence was the leaſt article conſidered; of all the variety of colours, tied up in ſtreamers, that might have paſſed for the ſtrings of ſo many rainbows, or in knotted roſes to adorn their triumph. Theſe when brought home moſt of their ladies fell in love with: ſo that the number was increaſed, and equally diſpoſed of on the necks and rumps of the horſes, and in the hats, and on the breaſts of the ladies. Beſides theſe, all the men had ſimilar cockades for themſelves. Never ſure were horſes, whores, and ribbands ſo dear in one day at Briſtol! They who got coaches, were no doubt in their own thoughts ſet out the moſt genteel. Whereas they were moſt the caricaturas of gentility: whilſt thoſe who flaunted in open chaiſes exhibited a more looſe and eaſy picture, tho' they ran the greateſt riſque of breaking their necks. The waggons and their horſes, adorned with boughs, ribbands, and bells, trotted on in the gayeſt dreſs of all, and ſeemed moſt happy in themſelves. Some few appeared, like ſtraggling attendants of the proceſſion, on horſeback; and he who would not be thought without a miſtreſs, took her behind him. But they who could get neither coach, chaiſe, nor waggon, going in ſearch of ſomething with wheels, and finding ſome brewer's trundles, (which thro' policy or good nature were not refuſed them, as otherwiſe they would perhaps have been piratically borrowed for the occaſion) ſawed a but or large hogſhead into two; and nailing it down to the trundle, with a board acroſs for a ſeat, ſet out as much in pomp, as their fellows, and more in character of a triumphal car; obliged to the ready invention and contrivance peculiar to their ſpecies for this their happy equipment. Beſides having an equal ornament of party-coloured ſtreamers properly diſpoſed, theſe machines, of which there were at leaſt twenty, were decorated with an additional fancy of

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an enſign or jack, ſet up on the head of the foremoſt horſe, a pennant on a pole erected on the foremoſt part of the trundle, and colours, hung out by the like contrivance on a ſloping one, at the ſtern; which made them of an amphibious kind, or a mixture of land and water carriage. I hope my reader will not imagine, I exaggerate or add any circumſtances by way of making out a tale; upon my word I do not. The many living witneſſes to all theſe particulars could eaſily diſprove any falſe fact which might appear in the performance; but the number of incidents and cataſtrophes are ſo numerous and intereſting, thro' the whole, that the ſtory tells itſelf; and runs on, like a tongue with an eaſy talent of ſpeaking, without waiting for much aſſiſtance from invention or judgment. This new invention bore much the greateſt applauſe, and made the moſt correſponding and gay figure of the whole triumph. In this pomp and order, tho' with a little more ſwiftneſs than is uſually agreed to, in the like proceſſions of a lord-mayor, or lord-keeper on the firſt days of term, the ſeveral retinues ran by Mr. Walker's company, to the great pleaſure and delight particularly of the old lady, who was very ſedulous in returning the compliments of ſalutation, as they huzzaed and paſſed. "No wonder, ſays ſhe to Mr. Walker, your country with this ſpirited liberty beats the world at ſea." The French commander was leſs ſatisfied at the remark, taking this cavalcade as a kind of triumph before him, and refuſed going into the town with them: but was aſſured by Mr. Walker of his own ignorance of the whole affair; and that the moment the men got to the town, they would of themſelves inſtantly diſperſe, and he never ſee one of them; that it was only a whim put into execution in their droll manner of doing things, which always afforded mirth even to themſelves at their aukwardneſs in imitating any cuſtoms upon land: in which, as in their laſt ſort of equipages, they could not help mixing their own ſea manners even in their common expreſſions; being a people of a diſtinct nature in themſelves, for the moſt

part diveſted of common knowledge of things on ſhore. "If then, that be the caſe, ſays he, and ſo long as it is the caſe, you will always be maſters in men at ſea. Now our ſailors are at ſea juſt what your's are at land + beings not properly acting in their own element; and therefore aukward in their manners, as endeavouring, on the contrary of your's, to make thoſe of the land ſubmit to the uſes of the ſea. In which we run a danger, where you, on the other hand, are diverted."

Their ſtay at Bath, where the French lady and officers expreſſed great pleaſure and ſatisfaction, could not be long; Mr. Walker's compliments going farther than any entertainment this gay place could give, he having thro' his intereſt gained all their names to be put in a cartel, in leſs than two months from their firſt arrival. Their turn was now to go, and he himſelf was obliged to take leave of them at Bath, as his buſineſs hurried him to London. But not a circumſtance was forgot, which might attend as a convenience on their ſtay, even to their departure, and after; as to proviſions, wine, &c. being ſent them on board. The commodore, all the officers of the fleet, ſupercargoes and paſſengers went, all by the ſame intereſt, together. Mr. Walker gave the commodore two letters, one for the merchant at Morlaix, and the other for the governor at Breſt, recommending to them the bravery of the gentleman, who was the bearer; and he had the pleaſure ſoon after to ſee his name ſet to a command in the king's ſervice. Both he and the lady expreſſed an additional diſtreſs in their common loſs, being deprived of the means of making Mr. Walker a return for his civilities: ſhe indeed offered him a draft on her ſon in France, which he refuſed, but ſhe wrote to him from Briſtol, full of acknowledgments and promiſes of gratitude to a generoſity ſhe wiſhed ſhe had never known. Which without doubt, had ſhe lived, would have correſponded with her other proofs of ſenſe and ſpirit. But Mr. Walker has been ſome little time ago informed that, immediately after ſhe had ſeen her adopted ſon,

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ſhe was taken ill, without having had time before her death to make her will in his favour, her then preſent one being made to her beloved Maria; and that her relations have ſued him to an account; which he is well able to pay, having, thro' the uſe of her fortune, amaſſed two very reſpectable eſtates in Europe and the Weſt-Indies.

CHAP. IX.

The ſecond cruiſe of the Boſcawen private ſhip of war; her taking a French ſnow; the mutiny of the men on taking a Dutch veſſel; her putting in to Madeira, and ſtay there.

AFTER the departure of our French company from Bath, Mr. Walker fell ill of a fever there. Mr. Holdſworth went to him and ſtaid with him till his recovery, ſo far as to be able to be brought down by four men in a chair; his time for going to London being elapſed, and his preſence every hour needed at Briſtol. From thence, after a moſt expeditious refitting of new maſts, yards, and other materials, we ſet ſail July the 26th, 1745, with the ſame officers and crew; except our firſt lieutenant, Mr. Brooks, who was ſon to one of the lords of the regency at Hamburgh, an acquaintance of Mr. Walker's, and had been, the firſt moment Mr. Walker took the command of a cruiſing ſhip, ſent under him by his father to ſea. This gentleman, on the news of our ſucceſs in the laſt ſignal engagement, and on Mr. Walker's writing to his father in his favour, as he was a young man of the greateſt courage and merit, was called home, and immediately promoted to the command of a ſixty gun ſhip againſt the Turks.

I muſt run the riſque of ſome little cenſure in firſt ſetting out with a ſuperſtitious ſtory, as ominous to the misfortune of this cruiſe, not that in myſelf I feel my own mind under the tyranny of ſuperſtition, however I may have a proper deference to the good authorities of others. But without ſuppoſing belief at

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all to interfere, the mentioning of it here is neceſſary, as it produced a new ſubject which requires to be diſtinctly treated. There had been a report made by the French officers, when this ſhip was firſt taken, that a gunner's wife had been murdered on board. Whether this ſtory was known to ſome of the men, and ſo promulgated among the reſt, Mr. Walker could ſay, ſo far from mentioning it himſelf, he never once ſeemed to think of it. But one of the men, remarkable for his ſobriety and good character, one night alarmed the ſhip; declaring, that he had ſeen a ſtrange appearance of a woman, deſcribing her dreſs and figure, who informed him, among ſome other particulars, that the ſhip would be loſt. Mr. Walker took all the pains imaginable to ſuppreſs ſuch a notion, ſeeing it too much prevailed on the ſpirits of his men; but the opinion had taken root, and he found it a more ſerious matter than he at firſt imagined: ſo ſtrong is any previous impreſſion received in the mind, planting itſelf againſt all the efforts and regular attacks of reaſon! He called the man into his cabin, who to the laſt perſiſted in his ſtory; but with his uſual civility and ſenſe, as he was perhaps a man of all the reſt the moſt remarkable for thoſe qualities, he promiſed not to repeat it. Had the man raiſed up a thouſand ſpectres, acquainting them with the falls of kingdoms and of kings, it had been treated with unconcern; but the prediction of their own misfortune, ſo near at hand, made a deep impreſſion on the courage of the boldeſt. The fellow came again ſeriouſly and privately to Mr. Walker, and declared, that he a ſecond time had converſed with her. And a third time, he called out, in ſeeming agonies to ſome of his ſhip-mates, "that he then ſaw and heard her." Theſe were enemies for Mr. Walker to deal with, which he had not yet found among the living; for now a total languor infected all the common men, and even ſome of the officers. And two more of the men, in their ſcared imaginations, were ready to make oath, of their ſeeing her at different times, and gave accounts ſhocking in circumſtances. Mr. Walker

could not conceive it to be any ſcheme or contrived tale to draw off the affections of the men; or debilitate their courage. Nor did puniſhment appear a proper means of ſuppreſſing the opinions of the mind; but ſtill there was a neceſſity for ſome cure.

It may perhaps be ſtill thought a matter of ſmall conſequence to mention: but they who are converſant with men under a command, know that a deſpondency often runs thro' a whole ſet of them from a trifling cauſe, and is generally attended with conſequences very dangerous to a commander. Enthuſiaſm itſelf indeed is a ſpectre of the brain; but, being more a ſpirit of life, it raiſes and actuates men to bold and glorious actions; for the greateſt deeds which emblazon hiſtory, from the firſt date of time to the preſent day, have been atchieved by this ſpirit alone. If enthuſiaſm, which is the higheſt region of ſuperſtition, will inſpire to ſuch acts of heroiſm, to what remiſſneſs of action will deſpondency, which is its loweſt abyſs, enervate and clog the mental powers! for theſe two degrees riſe and fall from the ſmalleſt turns or changes of things. Like other mechanic ſpirits in the tube, affected by every alteration of the air, the ſmalleſt accident may influence the greateſt deſigns, and carry them up to proſperity, fame, and ſun-ſhine; or lower them to adverſity and nipping froſts, in which not a bud of glory can put forth or flouriſh. In what an uncertain region then does a commander move, who acts in this ſphere of praiſe and popular approbation! 'Tis therefore wrong in thoſe, who judge of their actions at a diſtance, not to allow ſometimes the greateſt accidents of ſucceſs or misfortune to be conſequences often of the ſmalleſt cauſe. I ſpeak but as to the general; for as Mr. Walker has never been under public cenſure as an officer, all I mean to advance is, that the foregoing relation, tho' it may appear a ſubject fit only for a nurſery, (according to the diabolical cuſtom of frighting children to ſleep,) was a matter of more moment at the time, and afterwards, than can be, without ſenſible conſideration, at firſt imagined. And I muſt

alſo take care to excuſe myſelf as a writer; hoping the reader will not think, becauſe I am beginning a tragical ſcene, that I endeavour to imitate the tragic authors, who write only to the paſſions, by introducing a ghoſt.

Mr. Walker therefore, in his then circumſtances, put this affair on ſuch a footing, as if ſome others had contrived this apparition to ſtrike the conceptions of all ſuch fools as would believe it; and he promiſed a reward to any who would diſcover the inventors of ſuch an ill-timed plot of diverſion. Finding this begin to anſwer his expectation, he thought it the ſeaſon to apply the cure, and gave money to two of the moſt truſty and intelligent of the common men he could pitch upon, to take on them, by ſome well planned ſtory, to bring the reſt into an opinion, that they were the dreſt-up phantom; and they accordingly underwent a very ſevere cenſure, in words only, for ſuch their imprudence. This had a better effect than any other means of argument; and it found alſo a readier belief from a ſtory he to this purpoſe told us very a-propos, of having himſelf ſeen an apparition, which from the appearing probability in its circumſtances of being real, and proving in the end a cheat, ſhewed the general foundation of ſuch pretences.

As we had nothing material between the firſt day of our cruiſe, and the twenty ſecond of Auguſt, I ſhall, with the leave of ſome of my readers, fill up the ſpace with the relation of Mr. Walker's ſtory; eſpecially as there may be a leſſon drawn from it. Thoſe who think it an intruſion on the ſubject may very readily paſs it over.

In the midſt of June, 1734, Mr. Walker lying at anchor at Cadiz, in his ſhip the Elizabeth, a gentleman of Ireland, whoſe name was Burnet, was then on board, going to take his paſſage over to Ireland. This gentleman was a particular acquaintance of Mr. Walker's, and he was extremely fond of him, being a man of great good ſenſe and very lively in converſation. The night before the affair which we ſpeak of happened, the ſubject turned upon apparitions of

deceaſed friends, in which this gentleman ſeemed much to believe, and told many ſtrange ſtories as authorities for them, beſides giving ſome metaphyſical arguments, chiefly that the natural fear we had of them proved the ſoul's confeſſion of them. But Mr. Walker, who was intirely of another way of thinking, treating all his arguments with ridicule, Mr. Burnet, who was bred a phyſician, was curious to try how far fancy might be wrought on in an unbeliever, and reſolved to prove the power of this natural fear over the ſenſes: a ſtrange way, you will ſay, to convince the mind by attacking the imagination; or, if it was curioſity to ſee the operations of fear work on fancy, it was too nice an experiment to anatomize a friend's mind for information only. But perhaps the humour of the thought was the greateſt motive; for he was a man of a gay temper, and frolickſome.

About noon, as they were ſtanding, with more of the ſhip's company, upon deck, near the forecaſtle, looking at ſome of the governor's guard-boats, making faſt to a buoy of a ſhip in the bay, in order to watch the money, that it might not be carried out of the country, Mr. Burnet propoſed, as a plan for a wager, he being a remarkable good ſwimmer, to leap off the gunnel of the ſhip, and dive all the way quite under water, from the ſhip to the boats at that diſtance, and ſo riſe up juſt upon them, to ſtartle the people at watch in them. A wager being laid, he undreſt, jumped off, and dived intirely out of ſight. Every body crouded forwards, keeping their eyes at the diſtance where he was expected to come up; but he never riſing to their expectation, and the time running paſt their hopes of ever ſeeing him more, it was juſtly concluded he was drowned, and every body was in the greateſt pain and concern; eſpecially thoſe, who by laying the wager, thought themſelves in ſome meaſure acceſſary to his death. But he, by ſkilful diving, having turned the other way behind the ſhip, and being alſo very active, got up by the quarter-ladder in at the cabin-window, whilſt every body was buſy and in confuſion, at the forward part

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of the ſhip; then concealing himſelf the remaining part of the day in a cloſet in the ſtate-room, wrapped himſelf up in a linen night-gown of Mr. Walker's. Evening coming on, the whole ſhip's company being very melancholy at the accident, Mr. Walker retired with a friend or two to his cabin, where, in their converſation, they often lamented the ſad accident and loſs of their friend and dear companion, ſpeaking of every merit he had when living, which is the unenvied praiſe generally given to our friends when they can receive nothing elſe from us. The ſuppoſed dead man remained ſtill quiet, and heard more good things ſaid to his memory, than perhaps he would elſe have ever in his life-time heard ſpoken to his face. As ſoon as it was night, Mr. Walker's company left him; and he being low in ſpirits went to bed, where lying, ſtill penſive on the late loſs of his companion and friend, and the moon ſhining direct thro' the windows, he perceived the folding doors of the cloſet to open; and, looking ſtedfaſt towards them, ſaw ſomething, which could not fail ſtartling him, as he imagined it a repreſentation of an human figure; but recalling his better ſenſes, he was fond to perſwade himſelf, it was only the workings of his diſturbed fancy, and turned away his eyes. However, they ſoon again returned in ſearch of the object; and ſeeing it now plainly advance upon him, in a ſlow and conſtant ſtep, he recognized the image of his departed friend. He has not been aſhamed to own he felt terrors which ſhook him to the inmoſt ſoul. The mate, who lay in the ſteerage at the back of the cabin, divided only by a bulk-head, was not yet a-bed; and hearing Mr. Walker challenge, with a loud and alarmed voice, "What are you? ran into him with a candle, and meeting Mr. Burnet in the linen gown, down drops the mate without ſo much as an ejaculation. Mr. Burnet, now beginning himſelf to be afraid, runs for a bottle of ſmelling ſpirits he knew lay in the window, and applied them to the noſe and temples of the ſwooning mate. Mr. Walker, ſeeing the ghoſt ſo very alert and good-na-

tured, began to recover from his own apprehenſion, when Mr. Burnet cried out to him, " Sir, I muſt aſk your pardon; I fear I have carried the jeſt too far, I ſwam round and came in at the cabin window; I meant, Sir, to prove to you the natural awe the braveſt men muſt be under at ſuch appearances, and have, I hope, convinced you in yourſelf." " Sir, ſays Mr. Walker, glad of being awakned from a terrible dream, and belief of his friend's death, you have given me a living inſtance of them; there needs no better proof: but pray take care you do not bring death amongſt us in earneſt." He then lent his aid in the recovery of the poor mate, who, as he retrieved his ſenſes, ſtill relapſed at the ſight of Mr. Burnet: ſo that Mr. Walker was obliged to make him intirely diſappear, and go call others to his aſſiſtance; which took up ſome conſiderable time in doing, every body, as Mr. Burnet advanced to them, being more or leſs ſurpriſed; but they were called to by him, and told the manner of the cheat, and then they were by degrees convinced of his reality; tho' every one was before thoroughly ſatisfied of his death. I being perſuaded that this ſtory carries a leſſon in it, which ſpeaks itſelf, ſhall conclude it by mentioning this circumſtance, that the poor mate never rightly recovered his ſenſes from that hour. Nature had received too great a ſhock, by which reaſon was flung from her ſeat, and could never regain it afterwards: a conſtant ſtupidity hung around him, and he could never be brought to look direct at Mr. Burnet afterwards, tho' he was as brave a man as ever went, in all his ſenſes, to face death by day-light.

This ſtory being circulated through the ſeveral degrees of men in the ſhip, its circumſtances ſeconded the now prevailing opinion in moſt of the people, that the other ſtory was alſo an invention contrived thro' a frolic, or for other purpoſes. But the prejudice afterwards again fatally prevailed: however, it was allayed for the preſent.

Auguſt the 22d, we gave chace to a ſnow, the Catharina, laden with wine and flour from Bayonne, bound to Martinico, which ſtruck to our firſt gun.

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She proved a very acceptable prize, as we may ſay we were here our own agents; for we were in want both of her wine and flour: taking out a ſufficiency of both to anſwer our occaſions, Mr. Walker afterwards ſent her into Madeira, where he intended to follow.

September the firſt, ſeeing a ſail, we gave chace, and next day came up with her. She was the Fortune ſnow from Orantaver, bound to Hamburgh. And here a new cataſtrophe happened. This was a ſort of infant mutiny in the ſhip, not from any diſguſt to the command or ſervice, but thro' the covetouſneſs of the men, ſetting themſelves up as judges in the condemnation of her as a prize. The caſe was, ſhe had a large ſum of money on board; and the maſter ſhewing ſome backwardneſs to produce his bills of lading, occaſioned a ſuſpenſion at firſt of her being French property. Whereupon Mr. Walker had her thoroughly examined; and having to his full ſatisfaction found, that her cargo, which conſiſted of two hundred pipes, and thirteen half pipes of wine, and ninety-ſix bags of money, was for the proper account and riſque of Ractic and Zacharias Rigter, merchants in Hamburgh, he diſmiſſed her. This was a ſtep very ill reliſhed by moſt in the ſhip; and it was inſiſted upon in their private conferences afterwards, that ſhe was a lawful prize, and conſequently they had a right to, and ought to have detained her. However this murmuring did not reach Mr. Walker's ears, till it had gathered itſelf into a torrent of diſſatisfaction. Whilſt he was at ſupper, Mr. Kennedy, one of the lieutenants, came running in with an account, that the crew was in a mutiny. Mr. Walker, and his officers near him, immediately arming themſelves, ruſhed upon deck, where he found them aſſembled, not indeed in arms, but in a mutinous manner, demanding a parley, in relation to his having diſmiſſed the late capture. Mr. Walker inſiſted, That this was not the way to aſk one; that he was willing even the meaneſt man in the ſhip ſhould be ſatisfied of his conduct; but then he would take care himſelf to

give that ſatisfaction; and would not be called to an account for it by them. He was, he ſaid, ſtill more ſorry, it ſhould be ever ſaid of him, that he was obliged to take up arms againſt his own people, in defence of that conduct which could be ſo eaſily ſupported by words only: that it would be a pain to him to reflect on it, as long as he lived; and a blot on the character he imagined he had gained: that, in the firſt place, he would not enter into particulars with them, whilſt aſſembled in a manner, ſo like a mutiny. Nevertheleſs, he was deſirous of explaining to them the nature of their right over Dutch veſſels, as it might be for their general information and eaſe, (for in all probability they would meet many of them in thoſe ſeas) but that it ſhould be at a time when he pleaſed to call them together; for as they now ſtood aſſembled, they ſtood in oppoſition to him, and that every man who did not inſtantly ſeparate to his duty, when he gave the word, he would treat as aſſociates in a mutiny. Two of the men, *viz.* Charles Eaton and Michael Morgan, crying out, that then it would be too late, as the chace would be out of ſight, Mr. Walker demanded the others to bring them in irons to him, in token of their obedience, and ſent two of his officers to ſee it put in execution. This was obeyed. He then ordered them all to their duties till the morning, at which time he would come himſelf, and give them the ſatisfaction he promiſed. They accordingly diſperſed, and as ſtrict watch was kept the whole night, nothing of diſturbance happened, except that two others endeavouring to unlooſe their meſs-mates, were laid hold of, and being alſo put in irons, were all removed up to the quarter-deck. In the morning Mr. Walker bringing the treaty in his hand of 1674, relating to neutral ſhips, and the liberty allowed them to trade with our enemies, read it himſelf to them; and had ſeveral copies of the particular articles diſperſed among them, which by his direction, had been for this purpoſe tranſcribed over night; and, as many of the officers themſelves were of the ſame way of thinking with the men, he then

explained

explained to the whole, that as ſhe had no contraband goods on board, he had certainly no right, to detain her, by the treaty. And as to her having any French property on board, it is moſt certain, if that had been proved, they had a right to ſeize an enemy's effects in the hands of a friend: but that, even ſo, they had no right to detain the ſhip, without being ſubject to all charges to the Dutchmen for demurrage, and other loſſes, which might accrue to other parts of the cargo; for tho' we had a right to take it, ſhe had a right to carry it; as the treaty does not hinder her from carrying French property, if ſhe pleaſed, provided it was not contraband; elſe why ſhould the treaty diſtinguiſh what ſhall be deemed contraband, and what otherways? that therefore it would be very impolitic in them to ſtop or detain any veſſels, even ſuppoſing part of the cargo to be French property, unleſs ſuch part were ſufficient to defray all the expences they might thereby bring on their owners, as aforeſaid. That king's ſhips indeed, tho' as yet they had given few examples of the kind, might, at all events, attack and break ſuch ſecret trade of their enemies; as the country might find an advantage in paying large damages to one nation for the ſake of diſtreſſing another: but they had their owner's advantage to conſider, who had but private pockets; and that he thought it more honourable in them to return home without a prize, than to bring only ſuch mock ones as theſe; which, beſides the injury done to private property, might prove rather a loſs and expence to their owners, than profit or advantage; and which would be reaſonably deducted from any after-prizes they might fortunately make, as charges on the profits of the cruiſe. He ſaid, he knew there were ſome gentlemen who looked upon the circumſtance of having any French property on board as ſignificant, under the meaning of the treaty, to condemn ſhip and cargo, at leaſt, the latter, without any damages for detention or otherways, being recovered on the part of the Dutch: that he allowed treaties to be inſtruments made uſe of, accord-

ing to the circumſtances of the times and place; but that, for his part, he was reſolved to be guided in his conduct by the plain reaſon of things, and did not ſet up for giving occaſional meanings to matters of ſuch import. This argument had the wiſhed reſpect paid to it: it was ſenſibly underſtood by moſt of the better ſort, whom the more ignorant followed in aſſent, as they, who only follow, are led with more eaſe, as in the herd and bird kinds, by a call or known note among themſelves, than the moſt intelligent ſpeech of reaſon in an officer or ſuperior. It had alſo the further deſired effect in our future examinations of all ſuch ſhips; for from the journals I can collect many things of the like kind which came under our ſcrutiny and inſpection. In all which examinations the greateſt exactneſs was obſerved, to avoid giving the leaſt umbrage or offence: ſo far as always ſending our own boat for the maſter and commander; as it was an eaſier and readier office to us than them, and the laſt queſtion was always aſked by Mr. Walker himſelf at departing, whether they had received any injury or damage from any of the men? This proceeding, I know, will be by ſome eſteemed judicious, by others triflingly cautious. I mean but to relate it, not to ſet it out for praiſe.

The 28th, the iſland of Madeira bore S. S. W. and there we went in to water. On our arrival we found the prize Catharina not diſpoſed of, ſo Mr. Walker purchaſed her for a tender on the Boſcawen, ſhe having been proved to be a fine ſailor, and gave the command to Mr. John Kennedy, the ſecond lieutenant, calling her the George. Here we put on ſhore the French priſoners, and delivered the four mutineers to the conſul, to be put on board one of his majeſty's ſhips, which ſhould firſt come to the iſland. And here again eleven of the men committed a diſturbance, by an affront done to the major part of a whole congregation at their ſervice of maſs, and indeed to the religion of the place; for ſeeing the people, as they came out of the chapel, dip their hands in a fount of holy-water, and ſprinkle themſelves and fac-

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es with the liquid, one of them, pretending to dip in the fount, very ridiculouſly let fall ſome ſoot into it, which he had got concealed in his hand. This, inſtead of making the abluents appear white as angels, darkened them as black as devils: one part of the congregation thought it a prodigy, and ſaid their prayers the faſter; others laughed at the fellows, whilſt themſelves were of as good a complexion for ridicule. But the men, ſtaying too long to enjoy the joke, were detected, apprehended, and impriſoned. This was a new perplexity to Mr. Walker; it appearing almoſt impoſſible for him to obtain their liberty. He applied to the conſul, who was deſtitute of all power of giving advice. He at length aſked the conſul to invite about a dozen of the principal prieſts and gentlemen of the place to an entertainment on board; and this was, on all ſides, complied with. The entertainment was as elegant as all the delicacies of the country, a fine band of muſick, which to them was the higheſt part of it, and all the variety of wines on board and out of the prize, could afford. At a proper time Mr. Walker took occaſion of mentioning the raſh and inconſiderate act of his common ſailors, and repreſenting to them the loſs it would be to his majeſty's ſervice, to detain his men at this juncture: that the act was committed thro' an intire ignorance of the nature of the ceremony; only as a merriment on the croud, not as an affront to religion, or irreverence of what they did not underſtand: and he promiſed them, that if they would immediately ſend him his men, he would, upon his honour, make the chapel a preſent of a pair of ſilver branches, or wrought candleſticks, to the value of five hundred mill-rees or about 140 *l.* ſterling, out of the firſt prize his ſhip and men ſhould take. This offer was as politely, in recommendation, ſeconded by many of the company, and his men were ſent him that evening. Mr. Walker at the ſame time ſent back preſents of ſeveral ſorts of wine to many of the prieſts and gentlemen. A circumſtance happened in the courſe of the entertainment, which gave him an opportunity, if he had

pleaſed,

pleaſed, of recovering his men by an artifice on the weak underſtanding of the prieſts then preſent. Having a large flint vial of ſpirit of vitriol in his cabin, he told the prieſts he wondered the water, after gaining an holineſs from their hands, could be ſubject to receive a ſtain, or any contamination whatever; that he had a bleſſed water on board which would not: and ſo producing the vial, and pouring the ſeeming water into a baſon, he threw bits of dirt and ſoot, and pieces of rags, into it before them. The ſpirit immediately devoured them all, (tearing the parts ſo fine as not to be obſerved) to the great wonder of the prieſts, as a ſuppoſed miracle; ſo that they would have gladly accepted this bleſſed water in exchange of all the priſoners. But as he found the former propoſal of a preſent had already worked a miracle, (which it ſeldom fails of doing) and being above taking an advantage by impoſing on their ignorance, he diſcovered the reality to them; the whole company ſmiling at the eaſy trade of impoſture.

CHAP. X.

The Boſcawen's departure from Madeira; her meeting the Duke of Bedford privateer, and ſeparation from her in a ſtorm; the accidents ſhe met with; the continuance of the ſtorm, and her intire loſs.

OCTOBER the 5th, the Boſcawen took her departure with the George tender from Madeira, and cruiſed off the weſtern iſles till November the 12th, in which time they chaſed ſeveral ſhips, which proved to be either Dutch or Engliſh. In the night of the 21ſt, ſhe loſt the company of the tender, which did not anſwer her lights. In the morning the Boſcawen ſhortened ſail, and went under double reeft top-ſails till ſix o'clock, when, having gained no ſight of the George, ſhe immediately made all the ſail ſhe could carry and gave the tender chace; but during the whole day, ſeeing nothing of that veſſel, ſhe made the beſt of her way to get into her ſtation, where ſhe,

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in a conſtant courſe of ill luck, examined ſeveral ſhips; none of which happened any ways to belong to an enemy.

November 2d, ſhe gave chace to a large ſhip, which, upon coming up with her, proved to be the Duke of Bedford privateer, belonging to Briſtol, which had been out nine weeks alſo without any ſucceſs, ſave that of having eſcaped from an hundred ſail of French merchant ſhips in the bay, under convoy of ſeven men of war, whom ſhe fell in with. Thus we were convinced the French had changed their manner of coming home, by keeping always in whole fleets and under convoy, never truſting any conſiderable cargoes in ſingle or ſtraggling ſhips. Mr. Walker and the captain of the Bedford then agreed to keep company. The ſecond day after our ſailing in concert very hard gales of wind aroſe, and a great ſwell from the ſouth; the wind S. S. W. which carried away the main-top-maſt. The enſuing days the ſwell ſtill continued, but the wind ſomewhat abated: but on the 12th, the wind again blew hard, the weather was cloudy, and there was much rain, which laid us under our vallanced mizens. And here we may ſay the Boſcawen received her fatal blow; for in handing or making faſt the main-ſail, tho' orders had been given to chain the yard before the people went up, yet the boatſwain had neglected it, the ſtrap of the *geer-block*, by which the yard hung, gave way, and the main yard fell down, having above ſixty people on it, with the greateſt violence on the gunnel of the ſhip, clearing all before it. And altho' the ſtarboard yard arm fell ſo far a-peek into the ſea, as to be a great part in the water, yet not a man was hurt or drowned. The ſhip certainly received ſome injury in her joints by the accident; for ſhe very ſoon after grew leaky, which was the inlet to all our future misfortunes in her, that ended in her intire loſs.

The Duke of Bedford privateer was along-ſide when this accident happened; but the violence of the ſtorm not allowing her to give any aſſiſtance, ſhe

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was obliged, in order to provide for herſelf, to leave the Boſcawen: and they never ſaw each other afterwards.

The ſecond day after this ſeparation, the ſtorm ſtill continuing, the ſhip ſprung a leak in the lar-board-ſide of her fore-hold; and made ſo much water, as to put them under a neceſſity of keeping two of her pumps continually going: but, by getting their cables from between decks, they found means to come at the leak, and ſtopped it for that day: but the ſtorm coming on more and more terrible, and the ſwell alſo increaſing, the ſhip now laboured hard; ſo that ſhe ſoon began to work in all her lower parts, as if ſhe was looſe, or had a joint in her keel, and would part aſunder. In which ſtate ſhe now again made ſuch a quantity of water, that the carpenters were at a loſs how to judge of the nature of her leaks, apprehending them to proceed from a general weakneſs of the whole ſhip in her original conſtruction: we were at this time cruiſing off the weſtern iſles. Mr. Walker ordered the ſhip to bear away, till ſhe ſhould come forty or fifty leagues weſtward of Scilly, where he intended to have finiſhed the remaining part of his cruiſe. In which ſtation they might, in caſe of more urgent accidents, be within twenty-four hours ſail of Scilly or Kinſale: but on the 17th, the water ſo greatly increaſing in the hold as to alarm the whole ſhip, the lieutenants and officers ſigned a petition to Mr. Walker, ſetting forth the ill ſtate of her, and requeſting, that, for the preſervation of their lives and her, he would intirely give over the cruiſe, and make the beſt of his way to England. Mr. Walker met them directly in the ward-room, in conſultation thereupon. He told them, that tho' they had not yet found the ſucceſs expected, he hoped their want of buſineſs had not made them weary of the cruiſe before it was over; for tho' he agreed with them, that the ſhip was not in a condition to keep them ſeas, at ſo great a diſtance from home, yet, at the ſame time, he did not apprehend her to be in ſuch imminent danger as to oblige them to give over the cruiſe. How-

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ever he ſaid, he would be guided in all things by reaſon and facts, and deſired every one to give their opinion without reſerve. Mr. Dottin, the firſt lieutenant, ſaid, he had very lately examined into the whole ſtate of the ſhip; that her leaks every minute grew worſe, their rigging was ſpent, and their proviſion bad; which circumſtances were alone the occaſion of his becoming a petitioner with the reſt. The carpenter made a report, that he hourly expected ſome buts or planks to ſtart; the heads of the nails being all eaten away with ruſt, and the planks not ſo well trinneled, as our Engliſh ſhips in general are; and that, from her main hatch to her fore-maſt, ſhe was ſo weak, he would not inſure her, notwithſtanding their beſt pumping, to keep above water for twenty-four hours. Mr. Walker then conſented to proceed for the firſt port in England; obſerving, that his honour and dury to his owners obliged him to ſpeak to every ſhip he ſaw in his way home: but, above every thing, he recommended to them to uſe their beſt endeavours to animate and encourage the people, that their ſpirits might be kept up, and conſequently be the better able to perform their duty, as therein not only all hopes of future ſucceſs, but their preſent ſafety depended.

From this time to the 20th, the men kept willingly to the pumps. The ſhip had four pumps of the French conſtruction, which now were kept conſtantly employed, and which diſcharged a great deal more water, in equal time, than our common ſort do; tho' not ſo much by the half as chain pumps, but they take leſs room. Therefore, for all common merchant ſhips, the French conſtruction is by much the moſt preferable: but notwithſtanding the great and inceſſant diſcharge of theſe pumps, the water all the time gained upon their labour, and the weather continued ſtill very rough, ſo as to occaſion the ſhip to work upon the waves with great difficulty. A languor now ſeemed to ſteal upon the limbs and ſenſes of the men, and the ſymptoms of their former deſpondency began to appear. Every method was

taken

taken to invigorate them; but riſing circumſtances ſeemed to oppoſe themſelves, at every effort to all endeavours of that kind. For now, on the twentieth, the ſtorm again increaſed, and by the great labour and working of the ſhip, the water ruſhed in at all her ſeams in her fore-part, and ſeveral buts above water ſtarted; ſo that now the pumps with all their power were not ſufficient to keep it under; but every other hand was obliged to be employed in baling, which threw up ſuch large quantities or ſuch a flood of water on the decks, that the ſcupper-holes which were ten in number, and very large, were not able to vent it with an equal diſcharge; and in this ſituation we continued for ſeven days longer.

Another ſpeedy conſultation was called about throwing the guns over board, and ſix of the foremoſt were agreed on to be thrown over. Some advanced, that bringing the guns backwards in the hold would raiſe the ſhip more out of the water forwards; but as her leakings were too low for that to be of any uſe, it was thought that the greater weight in her hold would make her labour ſtill the harder; ſo they were without delay thrown over.

In this fatal dilemma one of another kind was formed among the people as the only reſource for their lives. This was no leſs than a conſpiracy to ſeize on the ſmall arms, and take the barge and yaul into their poſſeſſion, and ſo leave the ſhip with the captain, officers, and the reſt of the crew, to the mercy of the ſeas. Horrid as this deſign was, yet as the proſpect of preſervation by any other means was impoſſible, it was a crime more to be pitied and prevented than formally condemned and puniſhed; every man being deſirous of quitting the ill-omened ſhip, which was now again believed to be deſtined to a watery fate. Mr. Walker, who, at all ſuch times, feared his men would naturally fly to cabals, and their own directions, from labour and command, where death ſeemed the only end of both, had before placed his ſpies amongſt them; and being informed of every movement, and among the reſt of this, took occaſion to

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order up ſome of his officers on the tops, and diſpoſing the reſt in the fore-caſtle and other places, where the arms were lodged, they, on a ſignal given, ſeizing arms only for themſelves, in a moment threw all the reſt of the ſmall arms and arm-cheſts, all the pole-axes, crows, ſhot, and every weapon or inſtrument of offence, overboard. By theſe means, without waiting for further arguments, the poor conſpirators, aſtoniſhed, perceived it out of their power to execute their deſign, which they were conſcious was detected and at once prevented; and, in the greateſt agonies of ſurprize and fear, imagined Mr. Walker and his officers were now going to put in practice againſt them what had been by themſelves intended againſt others. But Mr. Walker immediately, with great mildneſs, told them, he ſincerely forgave them their fooliſh raſhneſs, as he looked on it an effect rather of their fears than diſobedience: that if they would now exert their beſt ſtrength and ſpirits, to pump and bale out the water, they in all probability would preſerve themſelves and him: but the moment they declined ſo doing, they muſt expect a ſudden death in going to the bottom. If they did their utmoſt, he and his officers would never part from them: but if they refuſed their aſſiſtance to the general preſervation, he had it in his power to provide ſeparately for himſelf and officers, as they before ſo cowardly intended to have done for themſelves. This being at once the doctrine and practice of humanity, ſo affected the poor fellows, that many of them were ſeen to turn aſide and weep; touched with a ſenſe of the generous goodneſs of their preſerver, or with remorſe at their own intentions. They all then endeavoured, diſpirited as they were, to give him three cheers, of their love and gratitude; which were ſent up in ſuch broken and feeble ſounds, that Mr. Walker, on his part, could not help letting fall a token of his grief at the death of their uſual vigour. He and his officers, being ſolely armed, removed next the barge and yawl, for their greater ſecurity, from the booms; and bringing them aft, laſhed them one

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on each ſide the quarters, where they were immediately under his own eye and command. Thus diſappointed of all other means, which was the great enforcing argument, the men applied themſelves to the pumps, and their other duty, with ſuch unwearied diligence, that they did all that could be expected from men in their condition.

From this time Mr. Walker never quitted the quarter-deck; nor once lay down for ſeven days, ſleeping only as he ſtood, leaning on the barricade or rail of the quarter-deck; for the men watched every motion and every word. And had he diſappeared a minute, 'tis believed the duty of the ſhip had ſtopped, the officers themſelves, notwithſtanding the frequent aſſurances of reſolution given by them to Mr. Walker, at ſometimes being as deſponding as the men. But whatever the captain's own fears were, he never diſcovered them even to his officers; inſiſting to the laſt, he did not think the ſhip in any inſtant danger: ſo that ſuch of them as gave a preference to his judgment over their own ſenſes, a while grew more eaſy. Mr. Walker had taken in at Madeira twelve quarter caſks of the beſt Malmſey wine, intended as preſents for his friends. Theſe he ordered regularly to be portioned out to them, under the inſpection of his officers; which by its good body and ſoundneſs greatly kept up the natural ſtrength and ſpirits of the men. It was thought proper to move two of the pumps forward to the hatch-way: which being juſt under Mr. Walker, as he ſtood on the quarter-deck, you might ſee the men in their labour look up at him, as it were ſearching his countenance; and at every forced encouragement ſend up ſome bleſſing, often anſwering his ſeeming chearfulneſs with not unmanly tears. Another circumſtance added much to our calamity. All the caſks, by the water riſing ſo high in the hold, floated or rolled about, ſtriking from ſide to ſide againſt the ceilings of the ſhip; that they were obliged to ſtave all ſuch of them as they could reach, to the loſs of moſt of their proviſion and water: and the men had no other ſuſte-

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nance, except ſome cheeſe, than the wine and biſcuit.

On the twenty-fourth, the ſtorm grew ſtill more violent than before; ſo as to have given buſineſs ſufficient for the ſoundeſt ſhip, to have made her way in ſafety thro' it. She now worked forward, as it were upon joints, letting in vaſt ſprings of water at every motion, and groaning hard as ſhe laboured on in the ſtorm. Seventeen more of the guns were without much conſultation ſent over, the anchors cut away with the ſprit-ſail-yard, and flying gibboom, and every thing done, without regard to loſs, which was thought to give her eaſe. The pumps alſo choaked in the hatch-way, and were haſtily removed to their former place. The next day, the fore-ſail, as they were hauling it up, ſplit all to pieces by the violence of the wind. The rigging alſo, through inceſſant ſtrains, by the labouring of the ſhip, gave way. Thus they juſt ſwam almoſt a wreck upon the ſea, every moment expecting to ſink for ever, and every wave to be the laſt thro' which the ſhip could ſtruggle; for they could not ſpare the hands from the pumps and bailing to repair any damages. Happy had it then been thought, if their worſt enemies had come to ſave them by bondage from a more inglorious death. But not a ſail was met with or ſeen, ſince the departing of the Duke of Bedford privateer, during the whole time of their diſtreſs. Mr. Walker was now the only man, except one, who did not make ſome viſible ſhew of his fears; and indeed the only one who appeared unconcerned as to the danger, as he inſiſted the ſhip would reach her port: but then his great anxiety of acting, ſhewed him touched with a more general care than he would expreſs for himſelf alone. Being addreſſed by ſome of the moſt terrified, that prayers might be ſaid, he anſwered, he hoped every man's heart was an altar of conſtant prayer and praiſe; but that a formal ceremony of ſuch duty preſented in diſtreſs only, looked like a compulſive ſacrifice of fear, and was confeſſing the motive of it, deſpondency, which might be juſtly rewarded

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with the bad effects of its danger in lowering the ſpirits or hopes of the men; but that to animate themſelves and men, was doing their duty to the laſt: on ſuch good aſſurances of being right therein, prepared to ſubmit to fate, or ready to embrace with thanks their deliverance. When afternoon came, the men began to flag in ſpirits and in work, ſeeming careleſs of the arrival of that fate to which they thought they muſt yield at laſt; and ſeveral argued it to be folly in them to pump any longer. To offer threats or penalties where death was aſked, promiſed little ſucceſs. Whilſt Mr. Walker was thus in ſtudy what means to uſe, he miſſed moſt of his principal officers at the ſame time: They in fact had retired from under his eye, not daring before him to give utterance to their mutual feelings of their danger, and had met in the gun-room in melancholy conſolation, in order to take eternal leave of each other. Acquainted herewith, but not ſeeming to notice it, he privately ſent up a man to the top to cry a ſail, and having called his drum to him, bid it immediately beat to arms. The ſudden alarm of joy ſoon elevated the men, and ſtartled the deſpondents below; who, running up and hearing a ſail cried, cloſed round Mr. Walker for his orders. "Sir, ſays one, do you think of engaging?" "Yes, Sir, ſays Mr. Walker, in a low voice, when I ſee an enemy ſo near—your own fears, which attack the hearts of all my other men. I am willing to take my greater part of duty, but you leave too much to my ſhare." Perceiving the device, in which as they felt the rebuke, they were convinced of his ſuperior perſeverance, they never after left his command: but the diſcovery was not communicated to the men; for it now growing dark, they were kept up in ſpirits for the night, as in hopes of coming up with the ſail next morning.

The next morning no ſail appearing, the men were ſomewhat caſt down; but the ſtorm being abated they were encouraged to proceed to the firſt land, as they were in no capacity of going in ſearch of a chace. This held for the greateſt part of the day, till re-

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flection ſhewing them the inſufficiency of their paſt hopes, and no further proſpect riſing of ſucceſs, the former malady of mind returned, and all ſeemed loſt again; when Mr. Walker aſſured them, as poſitive in his own judgment, they would ſee land next day. This again wound up hope, which waits on expectation; tho' he certainly did not make aſſurance to himſelf of his promiſe, but only uſed this device as a policy which touched the chief ſpring of the mind's machine, namely, the ſame hope on which all the other paſſions turn. During this ſuſpence, a man came running upon the quarter-deck, whether ſcared by his own fears, or ſent by the others, is uncertain, with news, that the ſhip was juſt going to ſink. "You villain, you lie, cries Mr. Walker: ſhe told me otherwiſe this moment, as ſhe roſe on yonder wave;" and knocked down the poor fellow, who went back to his comrades, with an account of the reception he met with for his over haſty intelligence. Thus Mr. Walker's undiſmayed reſolution to the laſt began to communicate itſelf to the ſpirits of the others, and kept them up thro' wearineſs and fatigue, with an hope which ſometimes grew to a faith, that they were to be preſerved becauſe he was the prophet; and thus another night was worn thro' in labour and anxiety, wiſhing for a ſuſpenſion of death 'till morn, which was expected to bring the promiſed reprieve.

The morning came, and joy, like an additional light, broke forth with it, and cheered the ſouls and very beings of the men; for land now appearing, proved it a true prophecy. Thither they ſteered, and the weather clearing and wind favourable, they ſeemed to make an happy progreſs on their way, tho' ſtill in equal danger, and with inceſſant fatigue of mind and body. The land was St. Ives: at length their ſtrength was juſt exhauſted, notwithſtanding the continued proſpect of relief more and more at hand, which ſpoke an encouragement, they reached the bay, and had they had another league to go, 'tis thought their beſt labour had not attained it, ſo ſpent were the men, and ſo deep was the water in the ſhip.

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They inſtantly hoiſted their colours of diſtreſs, and fired ſome of their remaining guns as ſignals; upon which the boats went off to their aſſiſtance, and brought the ſhip into the road. From the quantity of water in her hold, and the want of anchors to bring her up, it was judged moſt adviſeable to get her within the pier; but the people not being able thro' the violence of the wind and ſea ſo to do, ſhe fell to leeward of the harbour, and lodged herſelf on a rocky ſhore, which the moment ſhe touched, ſhe broke into two, and altogether ſeparated; one maſt falling in upon the ſhore, and the other maſt upon the ſea. By the nearneſs of the ſhore and the number of boats, all the men were ſaved except four, and three of theſe had foretold the deſtruction of the ſhip.

Thus fell a wreck the fineſt privateer in Europe: 'tis certain ſhe felt a ſhock by the falling of the yard; but the carpenter inſiſted ſhe would have equally leaked, and her buts have ſtarted on account of the heads of the nails being eaten away with ruſt, and of the planks not being well trinneled, as has been before obſerved; which French method of building is herein erroneous: for tho' they be very ſkilful in the mechaniſm of a ſhip as to her proportions for well ſailing, yet they are not ſo juſt in the goodneſs of their conſtructions, their bodies being generally too weak, as was proved to be the caſe of this unfortunate ſhip: whereas the trinnels or pegs by ſwelling, become of a united body with the reſt of the planks or timber, and, having no heads for the planks to force againſt, cannot ſo readily ſtart as the others. But in accounting for this accident to the ſhip, I have heard Mr. Walker lay great charge of it to himſelf, and have his expreſs directions to mention it, as it may be of ſome public uſe. That the French, regarding chiefly the ſailing of their ſhips, may, in their great knowledge of mechanics, calculate to an exactneſs the ſtrength of them, to the weight of metal they are to bear; they changing her guns, from twenty-eight nine pounders, to thirty twelve and nine pounders, as before mentioned, might be too conſtant

ſtant and top-heavy a weight on her decks, when ſhe came to labour in a ſtorm.

The people of the ſea-coaſt of Cornwall have for ſome years undergone the cenſure of being ſavage devourers of all wrecks, that ſtrike againſt their coaſts. How weak a creature is general belief, the dupe of idle fame! Humanity never exerciſed its virtues more conſpicuouſly than in this inſtance, in the inhabitants and people of St. Ives. They flocked down in numbers to our aſſiſtance; and, at the riſque of many of their own lives, ſaved ours. Mr. Walker would not be prevailed upon to quit the ſhip, till he had ſeen the ſick lifted thro' the cabin windows into the boats; bidding all, without diſtinction, provide for themſelves, as he was capable of ſwimming: but he was himſelf, at laſt, lifted out by two of the townſmen, ſtrangers to him, who went upon the wreck to bring him off.

It would be tedious to paint all the ſenſible expreſſions of thanks and gratitude, in the people to Providence for this their great deliverance: I ſhall mention one for the whole, as the moſt particularly obſerved by the reſt. The ſurgeon, who had been on board, was a gentleman of good wit and underſtanding; but unhappily remarkable for too looſe a neglect of duty to that being he had always ſenſe enough to revere. In all the former ſcenes amidſt others concern, he ſhewed ſo little ſenſe of feeling at any change of ſtate which mortality was ſubject to, that his lighter flights of humour ſeemed ſtill wholly to poſſeſs him. At the very laſt conſultation, when every other mind was attentive to the higheſt objects, he having fixed his eyes very ſtedfaſtly on a perſon oppoſite to him, who had but one arm, broke out into a violent fit of laughing; and being reprimanded for his mirth, ſo out of ſeaſon, "I am only laughing, ſays he, to think, how aukward that fiſh there will ſwim with but one fin." This gentleman getting on ſhore, whither the ſhip, as by the word of Providence, had juſt lived to deliver them before her own diſſolution, and being touched certainly at ſuch interpoſition

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on in his favour, threw up an eye to heaven, in the preſence of the whole company, that ſparkled with a fire more than commonly human, crying out, " O God! to whom, for theſe ſeven years, I have not lifted up my eye or heart in prayer, I now preſume to thank you. Let me never forget this thy mercy, or my duty more."

When they came into the town, every body's houſe was open to them, in all the offices of aſſiſtance: but above all other inſtances which could be given of the generoſity of the place, gratitude muſt here pay her greateſt debt, in remembering John Stevens, Eſq; whoſe unwearied activity, liberality, and prudence, in aiding, befriending, and directing our affairs, are without parallel, except in other like actions of his own. He took Mr. Walker to his own houſe; where he lived with him during his ſtay in the place: he was, in ſhort, in every circumſtance from Mr. Walker down to the loweſt man, the father of redreſs to every grievance. When we mention this gentleman as moſt diſtinguiſhable among many others, we do not forget to acknowledge the debts of obligation we owe to the mayor, the magiſtrates, and other gentlemen of the town, whoſe invitations, readineſs to ſerve, and other acts of civility, rendered them ever worthy the beſt report of their deſerving. The firſt night Mr. Walker made all his officers ſleep under their arms, as he did the like, to be in readineſs, in caſe of any attack againſt the wreck; and accordingly ſo it happened, for in the night the miners came down, and were ſetting about ſharing the wreck amongſt them. At the very firſt alarm, the mayor himſelf was up and a party of the town, who went in arms with Mr. Walker againſt them, diſperſed the croud, and took two of the men priſoners: theſe are a people the civil power are ſcarcely anſwerable for, at leaſt for their good manners, as they live almoſt out of the diſtricts of human ſociety, and may be ſaid to be no viſible inhabitants of the earth, tho' they act in the world. The time during their ſtay, which was upwards of three weeks, was ſolely employed in

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taking care of the wreck; and thro' the assistance of the aforesaid gentlemen and others, every thing and matter was taken care of with as much and more exactness, than if the wreck had lain at the shore of Dartmouth, or the doors of the proprietors; and a great part was saved to a considerable amount. Mr. Walker did not forget to remind his officers in the duty he had before advised to them, of returning thanks to that preserver, to whom they owed so great a deliverance; and the Sunday after went, at the head of all his officers and most of the crew, to church, where public thanks were returned for the late great and divine mercies they had received; and the clergyman was so interested in the case, as to preach a very excellent sermon suitable to the occasion. Mr. Walker then went to Dartmouth.

Thus ended this unfortunate cruise, protracted for upwards of three months, by various perplexities and accidents, in which Mr. Walker was to take his trial as in success. I have not yet made mention of the cause of the George tender quitting the Boscawen, which perhaps was one of the wickedest steps ever taken of the kind. The captain of her designedly went off with her to Ireland, and there sold the greater part of her wines. He indeed returned with her afterwards to Dartmouth, with some vague excuses for his behaviour. This action also shews itself the more wicked, as, in their consequent distress, they might all have perished, for want of the assistance he could have given.

This was the only cruise in which I did not attend Mr. Walker, having been detained at Dartmouth thro' illness; but I was present at the interviews between him and his late owners, who received him with marks of esteem, and a joy equal to what had been the claim of the best success. One of the first questions Mr. Walker asked was, whether they were insured? The answer was, No, nor ever would be in a ship where he commanded. They further offered, and which was, at several times after repeated, to build him a new forty gun ship from the stocks, af-

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ter his own model and directing; but his affairs at this preſent hurried him to London.

The End of the Firſt VOLUME.

VOL. II.

CHAP. I.

The fitting out the Royal Family privateer; accident to the Prince Frederick; eſcape from three French men of war; ſeparation from the Princeſs Amelia; meeting the Weſt-India fleet; taking a French tartan under the fortifications of Saffia; complaint made to the court of London, and ſome obſervations thereon.

SOME gentlemen of London (John Caſmajor, Valentine Comyns, Edward Ironſide, Eſqrs. and Mr. Parnell Neville, all ſince deceaſed, William Belcher, Iſrael Jalabert, and James Talbot, Eſqrs.) in the year 1746 fitted out a fleet of private ſhips of war, called the Royal Family, under the command of Mr. Walker; giving him the entire direction of the ſame, as to its equipment, and the appointment of all the officers. Captain Talbot's ſucceſs in two of the ſaid ſhips, which he had before commanded, engaged him and the reſt to increaſe the number under the preſent truſt. This fleet was fitted out at Briſtol, and by a few delays in the managers, took up near three months, before it was compleated. The greater part of which time Mr. Walker was preſent, giving directions; as almoſt every thing depended upon his management; and had he been the firſt principle of motion, the machine had kept better time.

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In one article, indeed, of our equipment, we had not the leaſt difficulty, that of getting men: which is generally a cauſe of delay, and the moſt material buſineſs of preparing ſuch expeditions. For moſt of the officers and men of the Boſcawen continued cloſe adherents to Mr. Walker; and the report of ſo great a private fleet to be fitted out, and the character and known ſucceſs of the commander, had drawn together ſuch numbers of ſea-men to offer themſelves, that near as many were refuſed as would have manned a like number of ſhips; though at this time there was a great ſcarcity of hands, both in the government's and merchants ſervice. Which circumſtance ſeems to ſtrengthen the opinion, I have often received from the willingneſs of our common ſea-men to ſerve in private ſhips of war, that, "Was our navy put on a more favourable footing in ſome particulars, very eaſy to be complied with, there would always be a ſufficiency of men ready offering to the ſervice:" For certainly there are equal hands in theſe kingdoms, with the aſſiſtance of neutral ſea-men, who flock to us in time of war, under a proper diſpoſition of them, at one and the ſame time, to man the whole fleet of England, and navigate the trade of the merchants.

Amidſt theſe preparations, a circumſtance appeared very irregular in the outſet; which begot a diſſatisfaction in ſome foreboding minds, as it aſſailed the confidence they before had in the managers. This was, that all the time of the fleet's being fitted out, no copy of the articles, which were to be executed between the managers, the officers, and men, was ſent down for the peruſal and inſpection of thoſe concerned: and though, at the repeated deſire and requeſt of ſeveral of the captains and officers, Mr. Walker had frequently wrote up to London for it, yet it could not be obtained; till within a few days before the ſhips were prepared to ſail, the articles themſelves were ſent down, ready ingroſſed and ſigned by the managers. In theſe articles, beſides allowing themſelves five per cent. upon the whole, as ma-

nagers, they had alſo made themſelves agents to the officers and men, with a further allowance of five per cent. for ſuch new office. This particular of the agency was ſo much diſreliſhed by moſt of the people, that many of the officers and others abſolutely refuſed to ſerve any longer, and offered up their commiſſions. But Mr. Walker, who had now compleated the fleet, was eager to be at ſea; and who, from his general good opinion of mankind, (which known part of his character proceeds from the too common error of honeſt men judging others from themſelves) had really conceived well of his managers, publicly expreſſed ſuch his particular confidence in their honour, and turned advocate for the articles; ſaying, "That, whilſt we diſputed about the agency, we perhaps loſt an opportunity of finding the fortune." By this and other perſuaſions, giving high encomiums on the great merit of our owners in fitting out ſo fine a ſet of ſhips, he at laſt prevailed, that every body in compliance ſigned the articles, tho' far from being convinced of the equity of them.

The fleet ſet ſail April 28, 1746, from King's-road, Briſtol, on a cruiſe of eight months. The ſhips were

			Guns.	Men.
King George,	George Walker,	Com.	32	300
Prince Frederick,	Hugh Bromedge,	Capts.	26	260
Duke,	Edward Dottin, formerly firſt lieutenant to the Boſcawen,	Capts.	20	260
Princeſs Amelia,	Robert Denham,	Capts.	24	150
			102	970

Crouds of ſpectators, as ſuch a fleet had not appeared before in theſe parts, acclaimed aloud a pleaſure at our appearance; which was ecchoed in joy within

within the breaſt of the men; and returned in ſalutes of our guns from every ſhip. But this great joy and fine appearance were overcaſt by two accidents, which damped the firſt and leſſened the latter; for about twelve o'clock the Prince Frederick, through the careleſsneſs or ſuppoſed ignorance of the pilot, ran aſhore on the Welſh-hook, and made ſignals of diſtreſs. The tide running very ſtrong in the channel, as it uſually does, prevented the commodore ſending any aſſiſtance: but at four o'clock he came to an anchor with the Duke and Princeſs Amelia, under the Flatholmes. In the evening captain Bromedge's barge coming on board, acquainted the commodore that the Prince Frederick had received ſo much damage by her late accident, that it was thought ſhe would not be able to proceed. Whereupon the commodore went himſelf on board the Prince Frederick, and finding ſhe made eighteen inches water in an hour, he ordered her back, and ſent an expreſs of the accident to the managers for their directions to him, whether to proceed, or wait her repair.

Whilſt the ſhips lay thus waiting for an anſwer from the managers, the other accident happened on board the Duke: which was a very raſh and paſſionate murder committed by one of the common men on another, by ſtabbing him in the breaſt, thro' an ill-grounded reſentment for ſome ſlight affront conceived. Mr. Walker having had intelligence of the accident, went on board the Duke. The men, taking upon them to execute what had been ſtrict juſtice in itſelf, though by no means legal in them, had hanged the murderer by the two wriſts to the yard-arm, where the poor wretch was roaring in great agonies. Mr. Walker immediately ordered him down; and taking the depoſitions of the evidence, ſent the deceaſed, the criminal, and the two principal witneſſes, to a magiſtrate at Briſtol. The fellow was afterwards tried and hanged.

May the 3d the expreſs returned from the managers, with directions to put to ſea without the Prince Frederick, who was obliged to go into dock. Signal

being again made for weighing anchor, and orders left with captain Bromedge in what ſtation to join us, we ſet ſail on our cruiſe. Our firſt ſtation was ordered to be between Cape St. Vincent in Portugal and Cape Cantin, on the coaſt of Barbary, till a certain day.—May 10, the iſland of Scilly bearing S. E. by E. diſtant ſeven leagues, the Princeſs Amelia being a great way a-ſtern, the commodore made ſignals for ſhortning ſail till ſhe got up. Whilſt we lay-to for her, we ſaw three ſail to the ſouth-weſt quarter, ſtanding to the eaſtward. Upon which, ſignal being given to chaſe, and all things ordered for engaging, we came ſo near them towards evening, as to diſcover they were ſhips of war of great force, at leaſt ſixty or ſeventy guns each; therefore apprehending their ſlow making from us a pretence of fear to decoy us into their reach, as ſuch it really was, we at once hauled our wind and left off the chaſe. On which they all hoiſted French colours, tacked about, and ſtood after us. The Princeſs Amelia being, as was obſerved, greatly a-ſtern, it blowing very hard, and night coming on, ſignal was made for her to alter her courſe, and ſhut up her lights: which ſhe obeyed. But we and the Duke, who kept cloſe company with us, being ſo much nearer to the enemy, apprehended ourſelves in great danger of being over-taken. The commodore ordered us and the Duke, by ſignals, to keep on our courſe and ſet up our lights, which ſeemed a contradictory conduct to the orders given the Princeſs Amelia; and, as we were cloſely purſued, could not fail of being reprehended in moſt of our judgments. But it now growing dark, the commodore called the carpenter to him, and making him fix a ſtep in a large bathing tub he had for his own uſe, and ſet a pole upright in it like a maſt, he put into it a quantity of ballaſt, and ordered him to nail a tarpaulin cloſely over it; then hanging a lantern and light to the top, he let it down over the ſtern into the ſea. We then ſhut up all our lights and altered our courſe, as did the Duke alſo. At day-break we ſaw nothing of the three French men of war, but

miſſing alſo the Princeſs Amelia, we imagined that ſhe muſt have fallen in with the enemy, and ſtruck to them. This fineſſe, which was certainly the cauſe of our preſervation, might, I think, be improved into common practice on the like occaſions, by all ſhips who run ſuch danger, taking with them a few ſmall boats or ſkiffs, ſuch as fiſhermen drag after them with their live fiſh: for if the light exiſts but for a few minutes, the purpoſe is anſwered.

The ſame morning, about ſix o'clock, we ſaw in the ſouth-eaſt quarter a large fleet of ſhips, whom the commodore imagined to be a fleet, which the aforeſaid men of war were convoying: and, as he ſuppoſed, had loſt. We inſtantly bore down to them; and upon coming near, perceived ſeveral large ſhips of force alſo with them: but as they were all to leeward, Mr. Walker ordered our courſe to be continued, ſaying, that though he might not have leave given him to burn, ſink, and deſtroy, according to his orders; yet he would venture to pick and chuſe as many of them as he could man. At nine o'clock, we came up with them. They proved to be our own Weſt-India and Newfoundland fleet, with ſeveral Eaſt-India ſhips, under convoy of the Milford and Rye men of war. Mr. Walker went on board his majeſty's ſhip the Rye, to acquaint the captain of our having ſeen three French men of war the day before, and to inform him of the latitude in which we imagined them to be. And here I muſt take notice of a circumſtance relating to the miſconduct of our own merchant-men, in the great diſregard they pay in general to the orders of their convoy, of which this is a particular inſtance: Mr. Walker having obſerved to the captain of the Rye, that had he himſelf been a French man, or they a French fleet, he could have made any number of them prizes, and brought them off in ſpite of the convoy. The captain made anſwer, "True, ſir, and what cenſure would have fallen on his majeſty's officers? and yet let me do all I can, theſe maſters of common veſſels, who ſail better than the reſt, will keep to windward: for as to firing

at them, I have done it till I am tired, and may fire away every ſhot in the ſhip."

He then aſked Mr. Walker, "if his intent was to keep company?" But Mr. Walker anſwered, that "as there was no enemy in ſight, nor any certainty of meeting one, ſuch delay might be imputed by his owners wrong in him." However, the Indiamen were ordered by the captain of the Rye, to hoiſt up pennants to appear as men of war, and to form themſelves and ſail in a line of battle. And Mr. Walker, having given this neceſſary information, took his leave; and afterwards plyed to windward of the ſtraggling merchant-men, and by firing obliged them to bear down under the lee of their convoy. The commodore of the Rye and Mr. Walker then parted with mutual ſalutes of guns; and we afterwards had the pleaſure to hear that they all arrived ſafe.

From this time to the 31ſt of May, the weather continued very hazy. In which interim we gave chaſe to ſeveral ſail; but, they either by having the wind of us, or by the power of the night, got clear. And here we found our feather clipped, wanting the ſwiftneſs of the Boſcawen, who in compariſon to our preſent ſhips, was as a bird of prey to the labouring wing of a purſued inferior. However, we had a ſtout and well built ſhip under us, which was of equal uſe in its place. We conſtantly made the ſignal of the Princeſs Amelia, to all the ſhips we ſaw, which we could imagine might be ſhe, hoping to have met her; but not being anſwered by any, concluded her, as we before ſaid, fallen into the enemy's hand. Being now come upon our ſtation, off Cape Cantin, we ſaw an armed ſail off the bay of Saffia, on the coaſt of Barbary, who hoiſting French colours immediately run into the road. We then ſtood in after her, running as far as ſeven fathom water, and fired ſome ſhots; at the ſame time the fortification returned the fire we intended at her pretty ſmartly upon us. But the commodore being unacquainted with the bay, and not daring to venture in any further for fear of ſhallow water, made his ſignal to our other ſhips to ſail

off,

off, which we likewiſe did, as if we meant intirely to quit her. When it was dark, he again brought-to with the Duke and made ſignals for the captain and firſt lieutenant to come on board: this was in order to conſult about cutting her out; for as he well knew the emperor of Morocco was then at war with the French, he did not imagine the fort meant to protect her from the Engliſh, with whom he was at peace, and concluded the firing from the fortification to have proceeded from miſtake. Upon this preſumption, three boats were ordered to be manned, with deſign to ſound the bay cloſe under ſhore, and ſo to board her and cut her away. The boats received expreſs orders, that when they came ſo near the enemy as to be perceived, they ſhould make ſeveral falſe fires; which the enemy, ſhould they be then lying on their ſmall arms, might imagine ſo many combuſtible ſtink-pots to be thrown in upon them; and which in all probability would occaſion them immediately to quit their decks. The command of this action was given to Mr. Riddle, the commodore's ſecond lieutenant. Accordingly the boats ſet off, well officered and manned. About one o'clock we heard the report of a briſk firing from the bay, by which we judged, they had met with a ſharp reception. And ſo it proved; for the enemy, lying on the watch, as was conjectured, received the boats with a well ſupported preparation, whilſt the attack was as reſolute on our ſide. Our boats hoping to ſurprize them, truſted in this their own after-thought, and neglected to light the falſe fires as were directed; but the moon riſing, ſhewed them their miſtake, and diſcovered them to the enemy, who being in expectation of them had time to get to their arms: for ſhe was a French pollacre, with a letter of marque, having ſix carriage guns, eighty ſmall arms, and about twenty men. Mr. Riddle was at one fire very ſtrangely wounded in two ſeveral places by a ball entering in at his temple above the cheek bone and out of the other, and by another ball paſſing in at his ſhoulder quite under the ſkin and fleſh, out of the oppoſite one, upon which he inſtant-

ly fell. Yet nothing dismayed, the rest boldly pressed forward to board sword in hand, which was at last effected; the men in the ship firing their volleys very thick, and the forts continually playing on our boats at the same time. At half an hour after four in the morning, the firing ceased; whereupon we made our signals for the boats, and were answered by them: and at three o'clock we saw them returning with the vessel; which was the Postilion d'Nantz, burthen about ninety tons, bound to Cadiz. Several men were wounded on the side of the enemy, and the only accident received on ours, besides Mr. Riddle's wounds, was that of one man losing an hand as he boarded, which was entirely cut off at a blow; as to Mr. Riddle's wounds, they were afterwards to an admiration perfectly cured; and his friends have the pleasure of his being at present living, to shew the indisputable tokens of our report.

Upon the commodore's examining the condition of the prize, and finding her, upon information, to be a very prime sailor, he appointed her as a tender, in the room of the Princess Amelia; and calling her the Prince George, manned her with thirty hands, and gave the command to Mr. John Green, his first lieutenant. It may be asked, why this late business was put under the conduct of the commodore's second lieutenant, and the first rewarded by it? When the resolution was taken by the commodore, the first lieutenant gave his opinion, that it would be better to wait till day-light, but offered to go. "Sir, says Mr. Walker, though I have no reason to doubt your prowess, yet I never will send a man upon an expedition to which he has any objection:" and so gave the command to Mr. Riddle. On our returning with success, he shewed his respect to Mr. Green by giving him his due place or rank; and Mr. Riddle did not go unrewarded, as will be hereafter shewn. But we must first recover him of his wounds.

Mr. Walker took the usual care of his prisoners; and afterwards, June 6, meeting with a Dutch snow (the Peace) coming from Sallee, and bound to Santa

Cruz

Cruz in Barbary, the captain of the French prize requeſted to be put on board the Dutch ſhip, repreſenting to Mr. Walker, that he believed he ſhould be able at the laſt place, with the aſſiſtance of his friends, to ranſom the cargo. This Mr. Walker complied with; and he was accordingly put on board. In conſequence whereof, on the 9th we ſtood in to Santa Cruz, and in the evening a boat came off with two letters to the commodore, "That as the Poſtilion de Nantz was taken under the cannon of Saffia, they thought her not a legal prize; and therefore would not ranſom her cargo." The commodore's chief aim of coming to the place was only to ſerve the unfortunate captain: he had no time to loſe in argument; and immediately made ſail out of the bay, having firſt diſcharged and ſent a-ſhore all the priſoners, with their cloaths, &c. except three of the men whom he reſerved in order to condemn the veſſel.

We ſome years after found, that a complaint of this matter had been made by the Moors to the court of London: it being alledged a cuſtom with them, to receive and protect any ſhip of what nation ſoever, which comes to trade or traffick with them; though at the ſame time in war with the country to which it belongs. This was a circumſtance, at the time not known to Mr. Walker, nor is it in fact a real truth, but depends moſtly on their arbitrary humour, as occaſion ſuits. The affair, as it has been ſaid, was conſidered as attacking an enemy's ſhip in the port of its enemy; elſe Mr. Walker (as I am confident from a knowledge of his prudence and diſpoſition, and as I have heard him declare, which is proof ſufficient) would not have committed the leaſt act of hoſtility, or infringement on the loweſt power in friendſhip with us, to have gained the richeſt prize upon the ſeas; or riſked doing a violence to any of his country's treaties. The great danger ſuch actions are liable to, of miſleading the opinions of the people at home, by the falſe repreſentations of things abroad, being matters of uncertainty, ought to make our officers in ſuch command more than ordinary cautious: as a mo-

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ment's raſhneſs, for a little lucre to a few particulars, may be the cauſe of evils running down, like a diſtemper in the blood of poſterity, and an expence of millioned treaſures to the nations on both ſides. Such rencounters abroad are generally acted in a diſputed latitude, and are a latitude of diſpute to their owners at home; whilſt king, miniſter, and people muſt take their words, at the firſt inſtance, of the hair-breadth diſtances in debate, or meaſurements at ſea. Reſtitution is then the word, before the right is proved. At the partial diſappointment, the Antigallic nation is told to cry revenge; and if the miniſter ſtill keeps his temper, a Cromwell's ghoſt is wanted to take upon him the new war. Such proceedings ought to ſtand in example like rocks to be avoided, in the conduct of all future ſea-men; and I am the more explicit in delivering my opinion herein, as I know ſome perſons have endeavoured to throw a cenſure on Mr. Walker's behaviour, upon account of this preceding capture at Saffia. However, the reſtitution here could be but very trifling: the chief of the cargo being but forty tons of bees-wax, powder, and warlike implements, bound to Cadiz, the whole computed at but 1784*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* nor did Mr. Walker know of the complaint, till he was abſolutely a priſoner in the King's Bench, unable to make enquiry or application, to ſet matters, if needed, to rights. But when Envy cannot get herſelf lifted up to ſtand with Fame upon her pedeſtal, it ſets Calumny to work at the pillar, to throw the envied ſtatue down.

CHAP. II.

Alteration of our ſtation; meeting the Prince Frederick; landing at Tercera; and the entertainments there.

THE certain day in Mr. Walker's orders being expired, we were now to change our cruiſe for the remaining part of the firſt four months to a new ſtation: viz. between the weſtern iſles and banks

banks of Newfoundland. Accordingly, July the fifth, plying off Tercera, one of the weſtern iſles, with an intent of watering, we ſaw a ſail to the eaſtward, bearing down upon us, as willing to come to an engagement. Diſcovering her to be a ſhip of force, we ſoon cleared, and got all hands to quarters: but on coming up, how great our joy, ſhe proved to be the Prince Frederick, captain Bromedge, whom we left to repair at Briſtol. Captain Bromedge alſo brought the news, that the Princeſs Amelia, being chaſed by three French men of war, had ſtrained herſelf in carrying too much ſail, and ſprung a leak; but that ſhe had got clear of them, and being obliged to bear away for Liſbon, had made that port half full of water. This account he received off Cape Cantin by a ſchooner, which ſhe had on purpoſe ſent expreſs to that ſtation; and though not a very favourable one, yet it was accepted by us as good news, in compariſon to the total loſs of her, which we had ſuppoſed; as it compleated the joy of our knowing our whole family was yet alive.

We ſtopped at Tercera to water, where our new tender the Prince George was of great uſe to us: for the watering at that place is attended with great difficulty to ſhips of any bigneſs, and with ſome danger even to ſmall ones. Wherefore the commodore ſent her to anchor in the road, there to take in her loading of wood and water, whilſt our ſhips in the mean time lay waiting off and on, in the Offing.

The commodore going on ſhore for a few neceſſaries, ſome of us went with him to ſee the iſland, being a place little frequented by ſtrangers, perhaps on the account of the danger for ſhipping. It is nevertheleſs bleſſed with a prolific fertility in various commodities, as wines, corn, fruits, lemons, oranges, and olives; and by its commodious ſituation for trade, might anſwer the hopes of the adventrous. Nature has alſo poured her greateſt beauties on it, which again are not left neglected or unadorned by art. It is inhabited by the Portugueze, and has ſome magnificent buildings and ſquares in its little metro-

polis,

polis, being a place of reſidence of ſeveral of the Portugueze noblemen and other families of diſtinction. It has alſo an Engliſh conſul. The commodore waiting on the conſul, was by him the ſame evening, introduced to ſeveral of the noblemen; and as there was next day to be a conſecration of a church, he was by them invited to ſee the ceremony. The conſul, upon our taking leave, aſked the commodore, if he had any muſicians on board? and ſaid, their aſſiſtance at the ſaid ceremony would be taken as a great compliment, for the place had very few ſuch of the degrees of perfection. As the commodore was a lover of muſic, he had a finer band than perhaps ever were together in one ſhip, viz. two horns and two flutes, which had been in the king of Denmark's ſervice at Copenhagen, and had been with us in the Boſcawen, as before mentioned; to which he had added a black drummer, and an hand from England of great execution on the large or Welſh harp, an inſtrument not much in uſe, but excelled by none, as alſo a performer on the violin who was reckoned the ſecond in England, but whoſe bad circumſtances obliged him to put himſelf in this ſervice. He ſent them all, immediately on his coming on board the ſame evening, to the conſul's, that they might join in the rehearſal that evening, ordering them to take changes of dreſs for next day. We had alſo two of our young gentlemen volunteers, ſo remarkably great on the violin, that if they diſliked the profeſſion, they had certainly made it their ſtudy. To theſe alſo the commodore gave the offer of going, which they accepted. The next day, he and ſome of the captains, principal officers, and gentlemen of the four ſhips coming on ſhore, ſome of the noblemen and gentlemen of the church met him; and, in acknowledging his civility of the preceding evening, gave intelligence of himſelf and his commiſſion; which he did not before know of, "That he was ſent by their new ſaint to aſſiſt them on the happy occaſion." The proceſſion to the church was very grand. All the noblemen and other perſons of diſtinction, prieſts,

jeſuits,

jeſuits, and gentlemen walking, and ſome equipages attending. When we came to the church, which was very magnificent, large, and lofty, being (to our ſurprize in this æra of taſte) in the Gothic ſtile, richly ornamented, we were conducted to a place prepared for our reception: and, except as to the performance of ſome offices in the ceremony of conſecration, which could not but give umbrage to the free born reaſon of Engliſhmen, unſubdued by prieſthood or church-ſuperſtition, the divine ſervice was very exalted, and awe-ſtriking to the heart. So that to uſe the words of a French author, "If heaven did not approve the juſtneſs of the worſhip, it could not be diſpleaſed at the endeavour." I think it is Monſ. St. Evremont, who makes an obſervation on this ſubject, between the different manners of worſhip in the Catholicks and Preſbyterians, "That the firſt do every thing they think will pleaſe, and the latter are tender of doing any thing they fear may diſpleaſe." To which, as an obſerver of the preſent performance, I will here venture to add, That by the overdoing of the one, upon theſe principles, and the too little ceremony of the other, the medium is left, as the propereſt, temperate ſtate between the two extremes, to be filled up by ſome juſt borrower of their merits and corrector of their faults: in which character the preſent Proteſtant might with ſome eaſy and happy alteration ſtand. The muſical performance was certainly much indebted to the various change of inſtruments our few hands added to its harmony: as the ſame performers on the horns were occaſionally equally powerful on the trumpet, and the fluters on the hautboys; which ſometimes in ſeparate pieces, oftentimes joined by our three violins and the new organ, which was a very fine one, and accompanied by voices numerous and perfect, compoſed a concert truly grand. Our black drummer alſo performed with great earneſtneſs and attention, putting on a face of ſelf-ſignificancy and general admiration. Which ſo worked inward in a real ſenſe of feeling approbation, that we may ſay he got here a new religion; for he never

never after would be perſwaded to think otherways, but that the Tercera religion was the beſt; becauſe, as he ſaid, it was *moſt worſhip*. This is as ſtrong a proof as we can have from nature, that, in argument of reformation, it is the errors of doctrine we ought to contend with, not the ceremony of worſhip; which to make it ſerious to the impreſſionable mind, cannot be too ſolemn, or too much aſſiſted by every decency of dreſs, which makes it reaſonably more ſo.

After the conſecration was over, the time would not permit of any other invitation of repaſt being given us, except a moſt elegant regale of ſweet meats, fruits, and wines; for we were haſtened from hence to another entertainment, the ſight of their bulls, commonly called a bull-feaſt. This was performed in the largeſt ſquare in their town, built round with ſtately houſes, where the people of faſhion reſided. Moſt of the houſes had large balconies which were on this occaſion hung round with tapeſtry and other ornaments; and filled with gentlemen and ladies, all in high dreſs, which made a very great appearance. There was a particular balcony appointed for us. And as the entertainment was a new one, we could not but be obliged at the notice taken of us in ſuch ſingular accommodation.

There were three bulls, and to each a cavalier, who were perſons of diſtinction, attended by footmen of an inferior quality, and each combat was ſingle. The horſemen were armed with a ſtrong lance, and the footmen with ſmall ſpears and darts, and with looſe cloaks or pieces of ſcarlet cloth in their hands. At the ſound of a trumpet the bull was turned up through a kind of a trap door, from a ground-chamber wherein he was houſed, into the ſquare, at the inſide of railings. And coming out from his cell furious, and mad with the ſhouts of the ſpectators, the horſemen advancing, he generally makes up to him, if not, he is provoked and inſtigated to a madneſs or courage by the darts and other inſults of the footmen. The cavalier always ſhews the great ſkill in horſemanſhip, in the number of circumvolutions

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he makes to avoid the blow of the enemy. Sometimes he is ſo fortunate as to kill him at the firſt thruſt of his lance, aiming moſtly at the back of the neck where the ſpinal vein runs: which if cut through or wounded, the bull, as is the caſe with all other animals, falls at once lifeleſs to the ground: and this is the higheſt victory can be gained over him. At which, and at all other feats of gallantry or horſemanſhip in the combat, the ladies and other ſpectators ſignify their approbations by waving out their handkerchiefs. The conqueror always immediately rides up to the moſt conſiderable perſonages in the place, or ſome admired fair-one, to pay his devoirs to them; which are always received with great returns of applauſe. Sometimes, if he miſs his ſtroke at the bull, the bull is victor both of man and horſe; and often kills both, or either; but generally the horſe, ripping open his very bowels: though, if the cavalier be unhorſed, the attendants on foot, who keep on each ſide of him, interpoſe; and by throwing their darts at the bull, draw his perſuit after ſome one of them. Some of the darts have lighted ſquibs at the end, which firing and burſting, as they ſtick in his hide, provoke him to ſuch anger, as makes it terrible to ſee and hear. In this exerciſe, the footmen are ſurprizingly expert and nimble; but if the bull be too quick upon any of them, the perſon ſo attacked throws his cloak on his horns, juſt at the ſtoop of his head: in which poſition for his ſtroke the creature always ſhuts his eyes; and then with admirable agility ſteps aſide. Sometimes, though the footman miſs his horn, yet if he but lets the cloth fall before him, the bull always ſtops to engage that; and will toſs it, if permitted, for a conſiderable time. This is a knowledge, with which, and a preſence of mind, a perſon by accident attacked by any of theſe creatures, may with eaſe eſcape. Having ſeen the performance here, I ſome years ago at Eſſex, eſcaped ſafe from one of them, who made at me alone in a field, by opening an Indian coloured handkerchief, and letting it fall. However by the great nimbleneſs

and

and ſudden turnings of the creature, many of the moſt expert in this ſport are taken by ſurprize; and are often killed or miſerably wounded, being ſometimes toſſed by his horns in the air upwards of fifteen feet high. If one cavalier be diſmounted, another Engages him, thus more provoked, and another: and if he holds the conqueſt over them, the footmen then begin a new attack with their ſpears, until he falls a victim to as cruel a diverſion, except our Engliſh throwing at cocks, as ever gave entertainment to the human attention; eſpecially that of the tenderer part of our ſpecies, the fair-ſex.

This diverſion over, Mr. Walker, and his officers received an invitation from the lady-abbeſs of the nunnery there, to pay her a viſit before his departure, if poſſible, that evening. The meſſage was well underſtood, ſhe being deſirous of hearing our muſicians, having received a report of them from the prieſts in the morning. Mr. Walker very obligingly went, and carried us all with him. We were conducted into a very lofty and ſpacious hall, divided a-croſs in the middle, with rails finely wrought, reaching up almoſt to the cieling, all of ſilver. In the hall were ſome large ſcripture-paintings of great expreſſion, ſome buſtoes of curious workmanſhip, and a cornice with carvings of great boldneſs and deſign. A carpet was ſpread and chairs placed for Mr. Walker and his company near the rails, with ſtands for the performers: a chair was ſet at the inſide for the lady abbeſs and benches ranged behind for the other ladies of the nunnery, raiſed in the manner of a theatre. The lady-abbeſs came forward to the rails, and with great addreſs, expreſſing herſelf in French, complimented our viſit as an honour done to her and her houſe: ſhe then took her ſeat, two nuns in veils ſtanding by her all the time, one on each ſide; behind her the young nuns and other votaries placed themſelves in gradual rows one above another, ſome of them of exquiſite beauty. The concert began on our ſide, which being, to ſay truth, performed with excellent maſterſhip, and greatly aided in ſound by

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the well-toned eccho of the hall, gave ſuch rapture to the fair hearers, that from the lady herſelf to the youngeſt fair one their expreſſions of pleaſure declared their ſenſations of it to be near an ecſtaſy. On their parts between the intervals, ſeveral of them played their guittars, alone, and accompanied with others; and ſome of them ſang. Between the acts, ſalvers of ſweet-meats, of the greateſt variety and fancy, were ſerved to us, and wine; all of their own making, very rich and of grateful ſcent and flavour. As the lady-abbeſs ſpoke both French and Latin very fluently, ſhe kept up an eaſy converſation with us, in which ſhe paid the Engliſh great compliments for their high deſervings in this world; but prayed much for their ſouls in the next. This kind of complimentary concerts were repeated and returned from the one to the other for near three hours, and no ſuch ſpace of time could have been more pleaſingly ſpent; when the lady-abbeſs, after giving us her benediction and paying us her thanks, retired with as much grace as ſhe came on. The reſt of the nuns or young votaries run to various other gates, at the outer ſides of the hall, under a piazza or cloiſters, where each or moſt, being equally ſkilled in ſpeaking as their miſtreſs, (languages being a peculiar ſtudy with them) entered with great eaſe and familiarity into converſation with moſt of our officers: which naturally turning on compliments to their beauty, and true expreſſions of pity at ſuch happineſs as they had power to bleſs mankind withal, being thus cloiſtered from the world, they as tenderly made love in their ſtrain, but more in the Platonic than rational ſyſtem. In ſhort, their expreſſions of brotherly and ſiſterly love, and of their marriages with Jeſus, were neither more nor leſs than the very phraſes and plan of thoughts at preſent uſed by our new ſet of methodiſts. They even proceed ſo far in this extravagance as to confeſs real paſſions; and particularly, one lady gave a letter to one of our officers, to be delivered to an Engliſh gentleman, with whom, from ſome like opportunity as this, ſhe had

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fallen in love. As we did not know where to find the lover, and had a curioſity of reading it, it was afterwards opened, and from firſt to laſt had been a flower in a diſcourſe of enthuſiaſtic oratory. I have ſince ſeen an ingenious treatiſe, intitled, The Methodiſts and Papiſts compared, and as I read it, could verify the truth of moſt of its opinions in this ſhort experience. At which time alſo, I could not help drawing the concluſion, that all extremes in religion, as in other things, come round to the ſame point. But what to me ſeemed moſt remarkable, was, that every one of them declared with plauſible ſincerity their approbation of their preſent ſtate, without a deſire to change. How long they would have continued their likings to it, had our young officers the liberty of more frequent viſits, I will not pretend to make a judgment of; but I cannot help thinking ſuch methods of robbing our ſex of ſo many of the choiceſt gifts of Heaven to it, looks like the contrivance or diabolical ſcheme of ſome enemy to the ſpecies. And they, who would argue otherways, muſt firſt go, after a three months cruiſe, and converſe with them at a grate, before I pay any attention.

After ſuch a variety of amuſements, and living all day only on ſweet-meats, we were glad of accepting Mr. Conſul's invitation to ſupper. Whilſt we were there, a couple of gentlemen from the jeſuits, came commiſſioned to invite us to their college the next day. At this time a gentleman of the iſland, a Franciſcan, was in company: the buſineſs of whoſe order is to beg for alms to give again away to the poor. Another plan copied by our new imitating order, and doubtleſs meritorious! where people are not proper judges of their own charity, and provided theſe commiſſioners turn out good agents, and exceed not their ſpiritual commiſſion or tythes of ten per cent. This gentleman, perceiving our willingneſs to viſit the Jeſuits college, as ſoon as their backs were turned, bid us take care not to give them an opportunity of making our wills. Our ignorance of his meaning, gave him a ſcope to entertain us with much humour,

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of which he was a perfect master, for the greater part of the night, in giving us an account of their various tricks and devices made use of to gain people's consent in their last moments for leaving the greater parts of their fortunes from their families to them. At which time a nod, or contrived bob of the sick man's head, is a sufficient indication of an assent, and as good in law as a regular sealing and delivery. This tell-tale wit, however, shewed us, that whatever charity these several orders of their church pretend, they have very little for one another. It would be loitering in our history to keep the reader longer at Tercera. Next day, after paying a visit to the college, where our reception was every way agreeable; and where we were shewed some curiosities, our time of watering was compleated; for business went on at the same time with pleasure. We then set sail with our fleet, again made perfect as to the number and order of our ships.

CHAP. III.

The losing company of the Prince George tender in a chase; landing at the island of Flores; meeting with two of our East-India men, and arrival at Lisbon; the badness of our provisions; the method of taking turtle.

ON our cruise off the western islands, July the twentieth, the Prince Frederick made signal of seeing some strange ships: we gave chace, and in a few hours after, saw plainly eight sail, who crouded from us as fast as they could. In this chace, we lost sight of the Prince George. When we came up with the sternmost ship, which was the largest, she proved to be a Dutch man of war of forty-four guns from Curosoe to Amsterdam, with seven merchantmen in convoy. The captain could not be perswaded but that there was a Dutch war with France, having had letters from Holland, as he said, of three months date, to such import, which was the reason

of

of his making from us, imagining us to be French. It was ſix days after this, before we ſaw any thing of our tender, at which time ſhe came in ſight, making ſignals of wanting to ſpeak with the commodore: ſhe gave an account, that in the late chaſe in ſwaying or hoiſting up her main-top maſt, the rope gave way, by which accident the maſt fell down perpendicular on the deck, and broke three of her beams. Upon this report, the commodore ſent the carpenters on board; and, as it luckily proved moderate and fine weather, he at the ſame time employed all the boats, in carrying the water from the tender on board the ſhips; and gave directions to captain Green, that in caſe of a like chaſe and her ſpringing her maſt therein, which the commodore apprehended might be the conſequence of the late accident, he ſhould make to Liſbon. Accordingly ſo it happened: for on the thirty-firſt, ſpreading the ſea as much as poſſible, we ſaw a ſail to windward, the Prince Frederick diſtant about three leagues, and the chaſe about four, the Duke to leeward. In this purſuit we again loſt ſight of the Prince George. Captain Bromedge had the chaſe twice almoſt under his bowſprit, and perceived her to be a large ſnow, full of men; but ſhe going exceeding well, put directly before the wind; and it being a dark night, ſhe altered her courſe, and he loſt ſight of her. We waited two full days for the coming of the tender; but ſhe not appearing in that time, we judged the accident had happened which we feared. We therefore, concluded her gone to Liſbon. On the twenty-fifth of Auguſt, we ſaw the iſland of Flores, and having been out five weeks ſince our laſt watering; and again wanting a ſupply, we went on ſhore, whilſt our ſhips kept cruiſing in the Offing.

Here the commodore found it neceſſary to apply to ſome of the inhabitants to aſſiſt us in watering; for the ſweet water is here ſeparated from the ſalt by precipices, above which it is lodged, and over them falls, almoſt quite round the iſland, in ſheets, that break upon the rocks, and form ſo many beautiful caſcades below: ſo that the iſland ſeems a gathered

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heap of waters, or numberleſs fountains in the midſt of the ſea. The ſpace for the freſh-water to run from the bottom of the precipices, till it meets the ſea, is ſo ſhort, that the ſalt-water immediately mixes with it wherever it has formed itſelf by a channel into a river, or to any depth, where a boat may be brought.

There being no Engliſh conſul, Mr. Walker was obliged to addreſs himſelf to ſome of the Portugueſe gentlemen; who were ſo ready in ordering all neceſſary aſſiſtance, that Mr. Walker thought himſelf indebted in ſome return of compliment. Accordingly he gave an invitation to the gentlemen of the iſland to dinner, who were not very numerous, the whole iſland not being above five miles in length, and two in breadth. The entertainment was made on the ſeaſhore, under a rock near one of thoſe beautiful caſcades in proſpect of the ſhips. And from the beauty of the ſituation, the eaſe of the reception, and muſick accompanying (eſpecially the horns, which were placed in ſuch a choſen ſpot, as to be caught in ſound by various ecchoes, one after another, that died away along the windings of the coaſt) it was perhaps the higheſt entertainment had been given in that place; and doubtleſs will help to confirm its inhabitants in their practice of civility, and in a readineſs to oblige all ſucceeding ſhips of our country.

We ſoon got again on board; and in purſuing our cruiſe, at break of day on the twenty-eighth, we ſaw two large ſhips about three leagues diſtance. The commodore immediately ordered out the ſignals to chaſe; but there being very little wind, and the purſued ſhips going near as well as we did, the chaſe held for three days and two nights. We were moſtly afraid of their getting from us in the night, by altering their courſes; which the commodore perceived them endeavouring to do: wherefore, as there were but light breezes, he ordered out the boats to keep on them at all quarters, and to make falſe fires, for a direction for the whole fleet to keep in the chaſe. The ſecond day, we could diſcern the painting of

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their ſhips to be of French faſhion. The commodore then wiſhed us joy of our fortunes being made, and the end of the cruiſe accompliſhed, acquainting us with a circumſtance, not before known by us with any certainty, which was, "That the original intention of our owners in fitting out the fleet, was for us to have gone to a certain port, Ferdinando Nero; in where, as they had intelligence, two rich ſhips, the Henry and Hector, having at leaſt a million on board, from the South Seas, were laid up for a certain ſeaſon." But as the out-fit of our fleet had been prevented, by various delays (which we have remarked) beyond the day intended for our ſailing on that expedition, we had, as he informed us, taken our different paſt ſtations, with a deſign to intercept them in their way home. He now ſaid, "that the time and all other appearances correſponded to form a belief that the ſhips in ſight were thoſe ſpoke of." This account made us doubly alert and diligent; and in no time of his life was Mr. Walker ſeen to ſhew ſo much elevation at good fortune as now. But, alas! he did not know what the hearer will be equally ſurpriſed at being informed of; that he at the head of this fine fleet, and it together, were intended to be only the dupes of greater covetouſneſs in ſome of our owners, who had only joined in this expedition with the others as equal privies in the intelligence, and had ſecretly ſent two other ſhips to the above port, on another joint account, in which they had fewer parties to ſhare with: who, in ſecurity of their own intention, to fruſtrate our deſtination, had in the outſet of the fleet thrown many delays in its way; and ſo planned the commodore's orders as purpoſely to miſs the above-mentioned ſhips. But as a diſquiſition of theſe particulars belong to a further relation, we ſhall defer them, with a detail of that expedition and its ſucceſs, to ſuch their more proper place. However, our commodore in the end made his cruiſe the better value to his proprietors, notwithſtanding ſuch treachery at home, to cut him off from this his birthright of ſucceſs. Without offence to ſtate policies,

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how juſt an epitome is this of the variance of intention ſometime between the deſigns at home, and the orders to the commander abroad! and what a hazardous commiſſion does ſuch a general or admiral often take, as to his credit with the people, if he does not ſucceed; ſo that public cenſure moſtly flies at random, but applauſe always hits the mark.

The third day, as we drew near our chaſe, they hoiſted French colours; but when we came ſo near, as for them to be aſſured what country ſhips we were, they pulled down their French colours, and hoiſted Engliſh, and lay-to for us, as willing to ſpeak with us. They were two of our own Eaſt India ſhips homeward bound, the Royal George, captain Thomas Field, and Scarborough, captain Philip D'Auvergne; and had on account of the war, diſguiſed and painted themſelves in India, like French ſhips, the better to favour their coming home. The reader may conceive the great diſappointment we here felt, in meeting them not an enemy; but as our cruiſe was only about half run, and we were all in health and ſpirits, we entered on the other part of it with equal hopes, and truſted to better fortune.

Theſe ſhips were going for Liſbon, there to wait for convoy; and having great value on board, and the ſeas, in which they were, being very hazardous, as full of enemies, the captains offered the commodore, if he would convoy them thither, their joint bonds of one thouſand pounds, to be paid by the company. He anſwered, "he would never take a reward for what he thought his duty to do without one. And, as the run of our own cruiſe now again demanded a reſting place, he agreed to convoy them thither, with this proviſo in regard to his owners, that, if in his way to that port, he ſhould chance to take a prize, unaſſiſted by them, they ſhould wave the uſual claim of ſhare, which otherways they might make, as being in company." To this they inſtantly conſented. Accordingly, we took them in convoy, and ſo continued for ſeventeen days, being the time before we got into Liſbon. In this interim we ſaw

various ſails, who perceiving us ſo large a fleet, never waited even to know who we were; but taking advantage of the wind or the night, always got from us. For which reaſon our great appearance, as it was a ſafety to them, may be ſuppoſed ſome loſs to us, in this part of the cruiſe. The captains Field and D'Auvergne were very kind in ſupplying us with water, which we wanted; and we in return, afforded them every ſupply in our power. But as for preſents (which, to ſpeak juſtly to their generoſity, were largely offered) Mr. Walker, to avoid all cenſure of receiving a reward, intirely refuſed them; except two pieces of handkerchiefs for his pocket, and one of muſlin for neckcloths, which after he got them, they would not accept of payment. All other things which we had from them afterwards, ſuch as arrack, &c. were regularly inſiſted on to be paid for at the full prices. When they came to Liſbon, they gave the commodore a copy of a letter to read, which they told him they had wrote home, in recommendation of him to their company's notice, for his late ſervices and behaviour. But ſuch is the backwardneſs of this gentleman in not advancing himſelf to the favour which often waits to take him by the hand, that when I aſked him, "Why he never applied to that board, during all his late neceſſities?" he anſwered, "What do I deſerve from them for doing only my duty?" Yet as that public duty to his country was a private ſervice to them; pity! that ſuch baſhfulneſs of aſking a reward for his deſervings ſhould make the fault intirely his own; that no notice of this action has been yet taken by ſuch a ſet gentlemen, whoſe generoſity, known to much leſs actions in their ſervice, wants no encomiums or examples here.

We all got in ſafe to Liſbon. We here found that the Princeſs Amelia was condemned as incapable of ſervice; and that the managers agents there, Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey, had bought another veſſel in her place, and fitted her up in readineſs for us, which we called by the ſame name. Our Prince George tender was here alſo; who, as was before apprehended,

ded, had ſprung her maſt in the chaſe, but was now repaired. We were detained ſome little time longer than was expected, in taking in new proviſions; for thoſe we had were become now ſo very bad, we could not uſe them, having begun to ſtink with us before the end of the firſt five weeks. Whereupon, ſurvey was made of them, and they were condemned as every way periſhed and unwholſome, and thrown into the river. We imagined we had other proviſions ready in the Princeſs Amelia, as ſhe was our ſtore-ſhip; but were informed, that thoſe proviſions alſo were become ſo rotten and infectious, that under the power of the ſame agents, they had been publicly condemned; and by order of the magiſtrates of health carried ſome diſtance to ſea, to be thrown out there, leſt of injuring the fiſh in the river Tagus. This was another circumſtance of contrived management, at this time only imagined by us as a lucrative ſcheme in the agent who had been employed at Briſtol; but will be hereafter opened to be part of the aforeſaid plot of deeper policy.

It may be wondered at, how our own healths were ſo well preſerved in ſuch bad circumſtances; but the apparent means made uſe of by providence, were the general cleanlineſs in frequent waſhing our ſhips with vinegar (owing to Mr. Walker's own inſpection of them for ſuch purpoſe) and the immediate care taken of every man the firſt moment he ſhewed any ſigns of illneſs. To theſe we may add, beſides the quantities of greens and freſh proviſions carefully laid in at every opportunity of coming to port, the great plenty of turtle we found throughout our whole ſtation in the midſt of the ſea; which, for the ſweetneſs of their fleſh and their eggs, are not inferior to thoſe brought from the Weſt Indies, though not of ſo large a ſize, the greateſt here not weighing above half an hundred.

The method of taking them is this; the creature always ſleeps at the top of the water, at which time he lies motionleſs: we row to him in our boat, with as little noiſe as poſſible, leſt of awaking him, by a

ſculler at our ſtern, as the ſtrokes of the oars would make too great a ſound in the water: for if he awake, he immediately ſtrikes down and is irrecoverable to us. When we approach near him, a man ſtands at the head of the boat, with a long pole and hook at the head; and putting it gently under him, turns him by a ſudden riſe of it on his back: in which ſituation he floats like a boat paddling, turning himſelf in a circle with his feet; but has not the leaſt further government of himſelf, and cannot deſcend. Thus we muſt acknowledge our obligations to providence; who by its hand preſerved us, and brought us through the deſigns or traps laid by men, who plot againſt or ſport with the lives of their fellow creatures, in laying their ſchemes and evil inventions for gaining lucre and falſe happineſs to themſelves.

CHAP. IV.

The taking the Poſt Galley; taking a regiſter ſhip the Buen Conſeijo; behaviour of the Spaniſh ladies; a trifling ſtory of a lap-dog and a monkey, yet with a moral; the fleet's return to Liſbon.

OUR coming to Liſbon occaſioned much enquiry concerning us among the merchants, upon ſeeing us ſo numerous a private fleet. Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey, a houſe of diſtinguiſhed credit, were agents for the managers; on them Mr. Walker had an unlimited credit. This and other recommendations gained us a reſpect in the place equal to what could be ſhewn to ſhips of any rank.

Mr. Walker contrived here a correſpondence, by which he every week had intelligence of every thing which was then doing in Cadiz bay, of the ſhips there, and thoſe expected home. This was executed by a ſpy, who plied over land from thence to Faro, which was a ſea-port. For this purpoſe Mr. Walker bought here a ſmall ſloop, and added her to the fleet as a meſſage-tender; and calling her the Prince Edward, gave the command of her to Mr. Shaftoe,

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one of his lieutenants. The number of our ſhips were now ſix. This laſt tender he ſent regularly once a week from Liſbon to Faro, and afterwards from our ſtation, as often as ſhe could go and return.

When we were victualled and all things provided for the ſea, we ſet out on the remaining half-part of our cruiſe, which was appointed to be in our former ſtation, between Cape St. Vincent and Cape Cantin.

The pleaſure of ſailing in a fleet, tho' of more care and weight of duty to a commander, is unſpeakably ſuperior, in reſpect to all other officers, to that of being in a ſingle ſhip. The very proſpect of our conſorts, the giving and repeating ſignals, the company of the lights at night, are an amuſement to the mind or buſineſs to fancy, that makes the ſcene undiſturbed by accidents, pleaſingly agreeable. Beſides the diverſions kept alive in the one ſhip or the other, form a continued circle of entertainment; which pleaſure is not always ſo freely enjoyed within the ſtricter diſciplines of the navy. Certainly no ſet of ſhips ever ſailed on duty in more order and obedience to command, or in better temper with themſelves, than we did upon this preſent cruiſe. In which we continued the whole remaining time, without one accident to be charged either to ill luck or ill conduct: ſo that the whole appeared more a party of pleaſure than of duty or ſervice. And as the buſineſs productive of ſucceſs, which was very great as to the value of the prizes, was performed in a few actions, we ſhall not rule ourſelves to an exact account, or diviſion of the intervening time; it being paſſed in chaſing and examining various ſhips of various countries, wherein nothing very material or intereſting happened.

The firſt prize was a Dutchman, bound from Corunna to Cadiz, called the Poſt Galley. Her cargo conſiſting of warlike ſtores; we ſent her into Liſbon, where ſhe was legally condemned; but her value did not much exceed ſeventeen hundred pounds.

Some few days following, we deſcribed a large ſhip off Cape Cantin. Signal being made to chaſe, we

came up with her, and perceived her a ſtout ſhip of twenty guns; but ſhe firing only one gun, ſtruck to us before ſhe thought we had time to make a return. She was a Spaniſh Regiſter-ſhip, the Buen Conſeijo, bound from Cadiz to Buenos Ayres. By her bills of lading and invoices found on board, her value appeared to be upwards of ſixty thouſand pounds.

Theſe Regiſter-ſhips, like our Eaſt-India ones, are limited to a certain number under the direction of the king; and as their voyage is to the South-ſeas, or the different Spaniſh ſettlements in the Weſt-Indies trading thereto, they are reckoned the richeſt ſhips of all Spain. The captain and ſupercargo having ſignified to Mr. Walker, that they were willing to ranſom her, he reſolved for that purpoſe to carry her into Liſbon; and being a prize of ſuch value all our ſhips eſcorted her.

Among the priſoners, were ſeveral ladies and perſons of great wealth and ſome diſtinction, going to their foreign ſettlements, with whom we had ſome conference, ſo as to ſee their manners and diſpoſitions; for in all the conqueſts we made under Mr. Walker, we made ſo many acquaintances with thoſe we conquered, as we never failed to introduce ourſelves to their eſteem and friendſhip.

We have mentioned a good deal of the French manners. The Spaniſh addreſs certainly does not exceed theirs in courteſy or ceremony; yet it has as much civility and more natural eaſe. And as moſt perſons who have ſeen both, are of my way of thinking in this particular,-I may venture to ſay it has more agreeableneſs in it to an Engliſh palate, as it keeps up a dignity in the ſpeaker, and looks more ſincere. They ſeem to pay their politeneſs thro' reſpect to the perſon, to whom they think it due: whereas the French are oſtentatiouſly laviſh of theirs; ſhewing the gift to come more from the fund of their own generoſity, than any ſeeming apprehenſion of another's merits.

The ladies and ſome of the gentlemen, their huſbands, deſired as a favour, that they might not be removed

moved out of their own ſhip. Mr. Walker granted their requeſt, and ordered them the free uſe of all the wines, other neceſſaries, and every accommodation in the ſhip, as before; and at the ſame time ſent his reſpects to them, that he would pay them a viſit on board their own ſhip. This they imagined meant an intention in him of taking from them their things of beſt value; but when he came on board, his dreſs and attendants looking ſomething above the rude idea they had conceived of an Engliſh ſea-captain, they ſeemed in an aſtoniſhed pleaſure. However, ſome of the ladies, who had got their jewels, and other valuables packed up for him, by way of bribe for his mercy and civility, offered them to him. Mr. Walker, with a ſmile aſked them, if the ſhip had ſo many ſupercargoes to give an account of her effects? they replied, "theſe little riches had been their own, but now were certainly his." He then deſired, "they might ſtill look on them in the firſt light, aſſuring them, that his officers and men had received his expreſs orders, not to take one ſingle article of apparel or property of any perſon's in the ſhip, from the higheſt claſs to the loweſt; that he was come only to pay the compliments of a viſit, due to them; and hoped they were ſo eaſy in themſelves as to make him happy in their company." I muſt mention that in the firſt propoſals of articles between the managers, officers, and crew, the commodore inſiſted, that no cloaths or private ornaments, as watches, ſwords, rings, &c. ſhould be taken as plunder from any enemy whatever; and that he ſhould have it in his power at all and every time to ſay what ſhould be deemed plunder, and what otherwiſe. This power in himſelf gave him liberty of exerciſing the natural promptings of his own diſpoſition on theſe and the like occaſions.——It may be ſaid, that we have laboured in giving remarks of two of the moſt polite people of Europe, taken only from the middle claſs, *viz.* from thoſe moſtly concerned in trade. In the firſt place, I take my remarks only from the opportunities given me; but in the next, I believe I ſhall find ſeconds

to my opinion, that ſuch are the beſt objects from whence to draw the general character of the whole. They are the part of the people moſt converſant in men and things, of a general education above the vulgar, and yet removed from the exact tutorſhip of art or faſhion; the politeneſs intimate to courts, being a leſſon taught by policy in all governments alike; and the motions of the vulgar generally ruled by their national prejudices, peculiar to all countries. However, we ſhall have done with remarking, and ſpeak only the facts as they happened.

Their behaviour on this occaſion of his generoſity was above the common manner of expreſſing themſelves obliged. They endeavoured at making it entertaining, with a familiar ſincerity of ſhewing their love to him, as their benefactor. Thus they brought to him the various ſpecimens of their wines, preſerved fruits, &c. giving him an account of each ſort and qualities; as taking a pleaſure in his becoming maſter of them. They introduced their voices, lutes, and hiſtories of themſelves. In all of which they were ſo ſignificantly entertaining, that they fully anſwered his requeſt, in making him happy in their company. Mr. Walker then invited them on board his ſhip, where we muſt allow him ſome vanity in ſetting out the liberality of Engliſh entertainment to foreigners: and, leaving it to the imagination of the reader, ſhall ſay no more of it here, nor introduce it in any other more proper place.

The next morning after this Mr. Walker's firſt viſit, the prize's boat came on board. We imagined ſomething extraordinary had happened; when we were told, they brought a preſent for the commodore: we all crouded to the ſides, were a preſent from one of the Spaniſh ladies was produced of a favourite lap-dog.

Parturiunt montes, et naſcitur ridiculus mus.
Great promiſes our expectations chouſe:
A mountain labours, and is born a mouſe.

At leaſt a dog not much bigger than one.

The

The ladies of Spain have ſtill a cuſtom, which was once faſhionable in England, of being particularly fond of the ſmall ſpaniel breed of lap-dogs, which are doubtleſs very beautiful creatures in their kind; and each fair one has her number of favourites. Among the croud that were ſhewn Mr. Walker for their great beauty and other perfections, was one in particular of exquiſite ſhape and ſmallneſs, not being larger, tho' at its full growth, than to be hid between the palms of a perſon's hands. Having taken particular notice of this, as a curioſity in its kind, (more with deſign of pleaſing its fair owner, who was likewiſe a beauty in her kind, than depriving her of any pleaſure; but the beſt intended compliment may ſometimes miſtake its aim) the generous hearted miſtreſs thinking it but a recompence for all his civilities, in her abundant complaiſance, thought herſelf obliged in gratitude to ſend it to him as a preſent, tho' of more value than any other jewel in the ſhip; the interview of parting with it having been, as we were afterwards told, very affecting. The commodore could not but ſend back great acknowledgements of the obligation; and, as he imagined the young canine gentleman to be a little conſumptive, he took particular care of his health in giving him goat's milk for breakfaſt, having a couple of goats aboard. But in private life, as in courts, favourites ſeldom agree too near each other; for having another favourite on board, a Chineſe monkey of great humour and capacity, which had been given by ſome of the officers of the Eaſt-India men, the creature, whether out of envy at ſeeing ſuch care taken of the other, or love of the little animal, the next day caught him up in his arms, at a time, when no body was in the cabin, and run with him up to the yard-arm; where he ſat, keeping him in great ſubmiſſion by boxing him in the ear, whenever he dared to murmur at his ſtate, and played a thouſand antic tricks with him, to the laughter of the common men and pain of Mr. Walker, for fear of ſome fatal accident. The only hopes for its eſcape were, that he would throw it into the ſea;

and the men, ſeeing the commodore anxious for its preſervation, propoſed getting out the boat, in ſuch caſe to ſave it; and were abſolutely getting it over, when, after various inducements offered to the monkey, to intice him down with his new charge, at laſt a China baſon of milk being brought, and ordered to be ſet in his view on the deck, immediately the man-imitating creature came down, and bringing ſafe his little play-fellow, ſet it to the bowl to drink. But the dog, whether thro' the effects of his former fright, or grieving, in the loſs of his more indulgent miſtreſs, at the hard change of ſuch treatment, who being herſelf unſkilful in the art of rope-dancing, had never led him over ſuch a dangerous tract; or whether hurt in one of the cloſe hugs of affection, or reprimanding blows of the tutorizing monkey, or without any accounting for it at all, grew ſullen and died in a day or two after.

It may be cenſured as trifling in a hiſtory of military actions to introduce a ſtory of a dog and monkey. I have before mentioned, that I mean only a converſation with my friends. The great freedom and pleaſing eaſe of which conſiſt in a variety of ſubjects and leſſer digreſſions in the midſt of ſerious. As therefore I take a pleaſure in company, if I have at any time in this narrative entertained them, I hope to be favoured by their good-nature in this endeavour alſo. Beſides as my intent is to give the character of my friends, the particular parts are often better gathered from the lower incidents of life than the greater.

The death of Alexander, for ſuch our little hero was called, threw our commodore into much concern of thought what excuſe to make to the unhappy miſtreſs; eſpecially as ſhe was in a few days to come on board, and would expect to have her former favourite introduced. Whatever ſome readers may think, I hope to be joined by others, in aſſerting it to be a point of great difficulty to manage. Mr. Walker held a conſultation of the Spaniſh gentlemen aboard, who had ſeen the accident, all of whom owned its diſaſter very difficult of remedy, and beyond their capaci-

ties

ties of relief. At length to put the living delinquent in the dead hero's place, was thought the only means of alleviating the grief that was known would flow; for where a generous mind is raiſed to reſentment, nothing ſo ſoon appeaſes it to forgiveneſs as putting the object of its anger within its power; which ſhould it here become a new favourite was alſo the ſureſt way of forgetting the old. With this view Pug was ſent a preſent in return, with a directed card to his new miſtreſs, which was put into his hand as he entered the room, with theſe words in French: "I come to die if you decree it." All other faults being kept a ſecret, this raiſed on their ſide many arguments of enquiry about the meaning, which was too ſoon cleared up; however Pug was kindly received, and he immediately exerted his ſtation of private tutor to the whole family of dogs; and being very ſoon neceſſary in his office, particularly in the art of fleaing, grew into great favour. Our chief ſurgeon (who was the ſame gentleman, who was with us at the loſs of the Boſcawen) in his uſual good humour, thought of a means of ſhewing a further compliment to the fair-one, in making up ſome part of her loſs: whoſe beauty, by all report to him, was ſo deſerving of being obliged, elſe I much doubt whether all this work of pacification had thus been ſtudied. This was to have the ſkin ſtuffed: ſo ordering one of his young men to perform the office of ſkinning, the whole ſociety of Spaniſh and Engliſh gentlemen took on themſelves that of ſtuffing; and the dead hero was in effigy ſet on his feet again, in all his wonted beauty and apparel. When the expected viſit arrived, and the ſad account was given of his death, he was brought to his miſtreſs, and receiving kiſſes from her lips, of whoſe happineſs, alas, he was not now ſenſible, was wetted with ſome drops from her beauteous eyes, now like a ſky, o'erſwoln with rain. Mr. Walker ſoon ſaw, nothing would be ſo great a conſolement to her for the loſs of Alexander living as Alexander dead. She accepted him back with all the confeſſions of obligation, and

ſaid,

ſaid, " She ever would be convinced of the humanity of the Engliſh, though in ſo ſmall an inſtance, from the great reſpect paid to ſo pretty a little being."

However trifling the whole may be, it turned out a material benefit to the gentleman we ſpoke of, our ſurgeon: for induced from the beauty and neat proportion of the limbs, he anatomized the remains, which ſeemed a piece of exquiſite workmanſhip in his art. This being particularly admired by one of the principal Spaniſh merchants on board, a young gentleman, our ſurgeon preſented it to him, which ſo obliged him, that he took a very fine yellow diamond ring off his finger, and inſiſted on his wearing it: as the occaſion of this, we are told with the ſmiles of ſome of the other gentlemen, that the young merchant was a profeſſed lover of the beautiful fair-one. What tender uſe or introduction he made of them afterwards, we cannot ſay; but as the acts of greateſt moment often riſe out of accidents of very trifling, and ſeeming diſtant concern, ſo, if I could with aſſurance ſay (what however for ſtory's-ſake, we will ſuppoſe) that ſuch regard in him to his miſtreſs's deceaſed favourite, raiſed in her a good opinion of his love to her, we ſhall think the death of Alexander planned by fate, and that the ſtory of the dog and monkey has in the end a moral.

It was not the commodore's intent to have gone himſelf into Liſbon, or to have carried in the fleet thither; as by the accounts received from Faro, he expected ſome more of the like ſhips to ſail from Cadiz. But when we came as far as was intended on our convoy, a direct ſtorm forced us all in.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

The diſpoſing of our priſoners; new intelligence from Faro, and Mr. Walker's policy thereon; taking the Nympha; account of the priſoners; landing them at Belem; a conſpiracy to end the cruiſe, and the end thereof.

WHEN we came into Liſbon, the priſoners were immediately given up to our embaſſador, Sir Benjamin Keene, and the conſul there; for by cartel ſettled between the Engliſh and Spaniards, all priſoners were to be returned to each party as ſoon as poſſible.

The commodore performed here a maſter-ſtroke of policy, of the French ſort; in which the ſubjects of that nation are ſo expert, that what we treat as a ſcience, they have brought down by practice to an art or knack; for, having introduced the Spaniſh captain and ſupercargo to Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey, to treat of the ranſom of the ſhip, the Spaniſh gentleman in conſequence of that treaty, agreed to ſet out immediately for Cadiz to the India company there, giving great aſſurances of their expedition and intended return, in ſix weeks, with an order for the ranſom. Mr. Walker, who had got new intelligence by his tender from his ſpy at Faro, to whom he had inſtantly ſent on our return hither, "That two very rich regiſter-ſhips, the St. George and Nympha, were then waiting in the Bay of Cadiz, ready to ſail; but that information of our fleet being at ſea, having reached their ears, they were afraid to go out." He told the captain and ſupercargo, "That if their return did not exceed the time mentioned, he would wait for them at Liſbon; for that, as he wanted water, and his ſhips were foul, he had ſome matters to do his fleet." Wiſely judging, that the moment they at Cadiz were convinced, by the aſſurances of the aforeſaid captain and ſupercargo, that his ſhips were laid up at Liſbon, they would ſeize the oppor-

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tunity of running out. Accordingly, the day before they ſet off, he unbent all the ſails in the whole ſquadron, ſtruck the top-maſts and yards, and made every ſeeming preparation of refitting, to the wonder and amazement of both officers and men, who thought the orders very ill-timed, and were at a loſs for the reaſon of them.

The Spaniſh captain, ſupercargo, and the reſt of the gentlemen and ladies inſtantly ſet out for Cadiz, acroſs the country, with their uſual compliments of taking leave; not ſo much as the monkey left behind. Mr. Walker calculating the time, when the captain and ſupercargo would reach Cadiz, he the ſame morning in which he imagined them arrived there, made ſignals for the whole fleet to get up top-maſts and yards, and to make all other neceſſary diſpoſitions for immediate ſailing. All which was compleated in leſs than ſix hours. Thus he again ſet ſail, February 3, 1746-7, having concerned himſelf no more with the prize or ranſom than in writing a letter home to the managers with an account of the news; leaving the whole care and diſpoſal of it to the preſent charge of the agents, Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey.

This ſudden departure was as unexpected as the foregoing delay appeared unaccountable. But when we got to ſea, the commodore made ſignal for all the other captains to come on board: he then informed them of his ſcheme and purpoſe, which were again ſoon communicated by them to the fleet, and gave a general ſatisfaction from the great probability of the ſucceſs.

We had not been upwards of twenty-four hours in our ſtation, before we diſcovered, February the ninth, a large ſail to windward, to which the whole fleet gave chace. As there was little wind, and night was coming on, the commodore fitted out the Prince Edward tender with a number of men, and ordered her to row up to the chace; the barge alſo was hoiſted out, with the firſt lieutenant and captain of marines, and ſent after. We did not come up with her that night: in the morning ſhe appeared a-

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bout three leagues quite a-head. At laſt the tender and barge viſibly gaining upon her, and our fleet keeping as much ſail as we could, they ſurmiſed who we were, and ſhe ſtruck her colours without firing one gun.

She was one of the very ſhips we before ſpoke of, the Nympha, eight hundred tons, thirty-ſix guns, two hundred and ſixty men. Her value above one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds, having near one hundred and fifteen tons of quick-ſilver on board; for the event happened as we expected. The Spaniards, on the above report of the captain and ſupercargo, made uſe of the opportunity, that ſeemed to favour them; and both ſhips, ſhe and the St. George, ſailed out immediately. The next morning after they ſailed, they both fell in with the Jerſey man of war, captain Hardy, to whom the St. George ſtruck: but the Nympha eſcaped from him, by flying into the arms of thoſe who had the beſt right to her.

This circumſtance has been lately related to ſome friends before Mr. Walker, who ſeemed to expreſs a concern at the loſs of the other ſhip, in her being ſo accidentally intercepted; as it was owing to his ſcheme ſhe was brought out of port, and as therefore ſhe ought to have fallen to his lot, the reward of his policy. His anſwer was, "He was much better pleaſed that ſhe happened into the hands ſhe did; as ſhe thereby made happy a gentleman well deſerving her, and conſequently many families; whereas had he got her, ſhe had not prevented his preſent ſtate." What the reaſon was of his ſo ſaying, I cannot determine; but it muſt point either to his own extravagance in ſpending it when got, or to his never getting it all.

Such a quantity of quick-ſilver to be tranſported to the Weſt-Indies, may well authorize the queſtion about the uſe of it. It has been a received opinion, ſtill ſuſpected by ſome people, that the Jeſuits abroad have the art or ſecret of fixing it into pure ſilver. This certainly is a miſtake, as in the firſt place, they do not appear to have any great notion of alchemy or

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the power of metals; in the next, quick-ſilver is nearer allied to gold than ſilver, being of all bodies next in weight to the former; and having by its conſtitution of parts, the ſoftneſs of the firſt, it cannot, though fixed, be ſo altered in them as to attain the hardneſs and clear ring or ſound of the other, without too great an allay: ſo ſuch fixation would fail of its purpoſe. The great uſe, as I have been informed, which they make of it is in collecting their gold, which in moſt parts of Mexico is lodged in an ore, and not ſo ſeparately formed as in the ſands of Africa and other places; its fine particles being intimately mixed with its bed of coarſer matter, ſo as not to be diviſible from it by waſhing. They therefore put the ore into large tubs, and pouring on it a proper weight of quick-ſilver, they ſtir them round together by ſticks or engines of great violence; until the mercury, working itſelf into the pores of the ore, ſeparates it minutely; and, whilſt it abhors mixing with the earthy ſubſtances, it by a natural attraction draws, or gathers the gold into its own body, making an amalgama or kind of paſte of the gold in itſelf; which, as the workmen then begin to waſh off the lighter earthy matter, ſtill ſettles to the bottom. Afterwards, by putting this on the fire, the quick-ſilver flies off, and the gold remains pure; which, if endeavoured to be forced in the fire in its firſt ſtate, would demand ſo ſtrong a heat, as inſtead of burning away the earth, would vitrify or turn it into glaſs. In which the gold would for ever mix, making it become a kind of ſtone; no doubt very beautiful, as in the lapis lazuli, and which I ſhould be very glad to ſee tried.

From the value of ſo large a quantity of quick-ſilver, which was, at the common market-price, worth upwards of ſixty thouſand pounds, we may judge the great wealth of the Spaniſh mines; when this rich commodity is only uſed as a drug or menſtruum to their work, and is always loſt in the fire. But tho' it has the power of making gold abroad, yet our managers have proved it to have no ſuch power in Europe.——But of this in its place.

A whim-

A whimſical ſurprize happened in the interview, as I may call it, between the Nympha and our ſhip. Some of the gentlemen and ladies on board, and many of the men, were the ſame before taken by us in the former ſhip, who immediately on their arrival at Cadiz, put themſelves on board either the St. George or Nympha, to ſave their paſſage to the Weſt-Indies: thus we here again picked up our old acquaintances, who thought leſs of ſeeing us than any one friend or foe upon the ſeas; for certainly they did not know, in which character to place us, as we indeed were in a capacity of both. One of the men ſeeing themſelves a ſecond time ſo ſoon into our hands, ſaid, "O good ſeignior Engliſhman! it is very comical indeed, you make as much haſte to take us, as we make haſte to be taken."

The commodore went alſo on board this prize, and the ſame complaiſance, and ceremonies of civility were here again acted over. Of the gentlemen who were left on board the Spaniſh ſhip, the commodore took care to leave the young merchant among the liſt of thoſe proper to take care of the ladies, which ſeemed to give no little pleaſure to the former miſtreſs of the now forgotten Alexander. Pug was again introduced to his old maſter, and the joy which ſeveral of the ladies expreſſed in ſeeing Mr. Walker with the ſeeming familiarity and friendſhip, that paſſed between them, cauſed much ſurprize and amazement in the by-ſtanders, who were new paſſengers aboard: but as all were treated with like civility, they all grew equally eaſy in the acquaintanceſhip.

This prize alſo the commodore reſolved to convey to the former one at Liſbon: for our cruiſe being near expired, the going home with her, and the returning to our ſtation, would have taken up the remaining time; beſides, Liſbon was, by the after orders of the managers, deſtined our port of diſcharge. Mr. Riddle being now pretty well recovered of his wounds, the commodore gave him the command of the prize; and now again we became convoy to our own treaſure, and ſteered away for Liſbon. Mr. Riddle

dle on the eleventh of February made ſignals of ſeeing the land; and on the thirteenth, the paſſengers at their own deſire, were all landed at Belem: whither, at their further requeſt, the commodore and ſome of his officers attended, and accompanied them to the cathedral, which is a very antient and fine ſtructure, as they ſaid they were going to beſpeak of an Engliſh ſaint there a more proſperous voyage againſt the next time of their putting to ſea. In this cathedral, Catherine, queen to king Charles the ſecond, lies buried; to whom, ſhe being canonized a ſaint, they prayed, that ſhe would hinder the Engliſh (ſuppoſing her ſtill to have an intereſt and authority over us) from intercepting them any more in their intended voyage.

The commodore took occaſion afterwards at dinner, to remark, in an eaſy pleaſantry, on the wrong policy of their countrymen intruſting the other ſhip under the tutelar ſafety of ſaint George, the peculiar ſaint of England; as it was certain he would betray them to his own countrymen. To this they agreed, as being very ſhort-ſighted in them; which made way for the concluſion, that if ſo, thoſe ſtateſmen in heaven have yet their ſeparate intereſts in this word. Alas! to conſider the inſults given to the Deity in the miſuſings of their reaſon, which we ourſelves have ſeen in this little circle of things, among people under a tyrannic government of religion, is productive of fear; leſt, as their country's ſenſes come in time to themſelves, they may miſdoubt the whole ſyſtem. For in it, as by individuals, if a man be found to have a trick of telling lies, he can hardly find faith in truth ever after.

On the fifteenth, captain Riddle departed with the prize to Liſbon, taking letters from the commodore to be delivered to the agents there; and we went back to our ſtation. But on the twenty-ſecond, the commodore drawing again back towards land, the next day, we being about three leagues diſtant from the rock of Liſbon, Mr. Macey, one of the agents, came on board to congratulate the commo-

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dore on his ſending in the late prize; or rather by appointment, as we ſuppoſed from the aforeſaid letters, to give him intelligence, thro' ſome directions the commodore had ſent by Mr. Riddle for getting the ſame. He returned the ſame evening; and we again bore away to ſea. Between this and the twenty-eighth we chaſed ſeveral Engliſh privateers, a king's ſloop, and ſome Dutch and Swediſh ſhips, all whom we brought-to; but the time was not yet arrived for the prize expected by the commodore to come in view; and the cruiſe being near an end, he for ſuch purpoſe endeavoured to ſpin it out as long as he could, and gave aſſurances of the great probability of his expectations, from certain intelligence which he had received. The men and moſt of the officers, all who now thought their fortune ſent before them to Liſbon, deſirous of following it, argued the cruiſe to be now at an end; reckoning from the time of their firſt departure from England: but as the articles expreſſed the eight months cruiſe to mean being at ſea, the commodore inſiſted that the time in harbour was not to be reckoned as part, but to be deducted from the whole; which carried on the time of the cruiſe ſtill farther. However, on the ninth of March, being informed of a deſign in the men the next day to give three cheers from each of the ſhips, as ending the cruiſe, he ſent word to the captains of each ſhip to ſecure their arms, and alſo ſent orders wrote by himſelf, to be read publicly in every ſhip. The men were thus kept to their duty, more out of awe than inclination; for the day after this, the captain of the Duke ſent their maſter in irons aboard us, being ſuſpected of cutting the gun-tackles and britchings, in a late gale of wind; and the next day, the Frederick ſent their firſt and ſecond lieutenants, alſo priſoners, and ſeven men, for inſiſting in a mutinous manner on breaking up the cruiſe. Theſe were all detained for trial, and on the fifteenth a court-martial was held of all the captains on the two lieutenants; one of whom was broke, but on petition reſtored; and the men alſo, tho' on trial found guilty, were forgiven:

forgiven: as now in fact by all conſent the cruiſe grew near an end, and the commodore ſaid, he wiſhed to end it without having one diſſatisfied man in the fleet. And now, the twenty-fifth of March one thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-ſeven arrived, at which time the cruiſe ended according to the commodore's own computation; when he broke it up, the men all in health and high ſpirits; and tho' glad of its being ended, the joy was in the notion of our having had enough of fortune; and thus we ſet ſail for Liſbon.

When we came into Liſbon, we found there all our Spaniſh acquaintances. By ſome delay in the cartel, they had not been ſent forward ſo ſoon as the former time. They came amongſt ſeveral of the town to congratulate us on our arrival; and the ladies boaſted to us, in return for our former jokes, of their ſuperior intereſt with our Engliſh queen Catharine, who had forbid our intercepting any more of their ſhips.

We will juſt ſend them off to Spain, and then conclude. During the ſhort time of their ſtay, we afterwards had ſeveral mutual invitations and parties of pleaſure. They made one grand entertainment for us in particular, to which were invited ſeveral Portugueſe noblemen and merchants, our own agents and others; we had muſick and a ball. The Spaniſh ladies and gentlemen dreſt themſelves out in their richeſt habits and jewels, on purpoſe of making a public acknowledgment of them to Mr. Walker. The captain and ſupercargo of the Buen Conſeijo were alſo there, returned from their negotiation from Spain; and in great pleaſantry and lively ſatire of the company, were called the two intelligencers of the Royal Family. This public reſpect from our enemies did the commodore ſome compliment in the place. They next day took leave, which hindered the civility being returned, making great aſſurances of their endeavours for life, to cultivate the natural good opinion, they ſaid, ought for mutual intereſt to exiſt between their nation and ours; and lamented the

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French policy, which could ſo artfully draw a curtain of fictitious ſtory-painting (as they termed it) acroſs the views of both countries; which, they ſaid, they hoped in time would be removed.

A few weeks after, a diamond ring was ſent to the commodore at Liſbon, from ſome of the public officers of the court of Spain, in the direction of their Regiſter-fleet. It was computed at about thirty moidorer value; but the motto was the intended payment of their reſpect, couched within the outward preſent of a ring; which Mr. Walker has forbid me to tranſcribe. And, after the peace, ſome Engliſh and Iriſh gentlemen, who were in the preſent fleet under Mr. Walker, having occaſion to go to Spain, particularly Mr. Kennaway, our ſurgeon-general, before ſpoke of, and others, aſked letters of recommendation from him to ſome houſes there, whoſe directions theſe grateful people had put into his hand. The civil reception they met with, the good offices ſhewn to ſuch his letters are too much to mention: but to ſpeak as much to the purpoſe in fewer words, each perſon ſo recommended made fortunes amongſt them, except Mr. Kennaway, whoſe good underſtanding and boldneſs of ſpeech always ſtood in his way of preferment eſpecially in a popiſh country. If our readers from theſe returns of favours draw a ſuppoſition, how eaſy a right underſtanding may be cultivated between that nation and ourſelves; theſe particulars may appear leſs tedious, and the conſideration of them will ariſe to public utility.

The Nympha was alſo put into the hands of Meſſieurs Mawman and Macey; and thus our cruiſe of eight months ended, with taking four prizes, then valued at a reaſonable eſtimation, greatly upwards of two hundred and twenty thouſand pounds, without the loſs of one man killed.

CHAP. VI.

The fitting out the fleet; the behaviour of the men; change of officers; the wreck of a Liſbon packet; a new diſpute and ſtory in religion; the compliment of the ſea-men to the Portugueſe court; a ſtrange exorciſm, or caſting out of a devil.

BY the former articles of agreement with the managers, the laſt cruiſe was to have ended at the port of London; yet as they had reſolved upon ſending out the ſame ſhips on a ſecond cruiſe, it was thought moſt prudent to refit them at Liſbon; as thereby, being nearer their ſtation, leſs time would be loſt, and eſpecially as ſeveral conveniences could be had there cheaper and eaſier than at London. The croud alſo of Engliſh and Iriſh veſſels, always trafficking there, afford grear numbers of men, who have no need of ſecreting themſelves for fear of being preſſed: for there never was but one inſtance of a preſs at Liſbon for Engliſh ſeamen, within the time of Mr. Walker's knowledge of the place; even this was occaſioned by ſome cauſe of very great emergency, and had given ſuch umbrage to the Portugueze court, as to put the expectation of another paſt all fear.

However, though all theſe advantages may be a proof of the good policy of the managers, Mr. Walker foreſaw one great inconvenience, as to the danger of deſertion, by the men being ſet adrift in a foreign port; which they at home did not think of, at leaſt the remedy and care of it lay intirely upon him. And therefore, when the ſhips were brought into the Tagus, and were ſafely moored and unrigged (which was done in leſs than three hours, to the ſurprize of the whole town) he went on board each of them; and returning thanks to the ſeveral crews, in behalf of themſelves and owners, for their faithful ſervices, told them, "that the managers, upon the account of the late ſucceſs, had agreed upon fitting the fleet

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out on a ſecond cruiſe, and had thought proper to end the preſent one there, that the ſhips might be more ready in proceeding to ſea, and be ſooner at their ſtation: that he hoped moſt of them, who approved of him as a commander, would continue with him in the ſervice; that ſuch of them as would again enter and help in equipping the fleet, ſhould, beſides their entrance-money, be put on regular wages; that ſuch who choſe to be on ſhore ſhould be ſupplied with further monies on account, during the time of their ſtay; and that they who deſired to go home, ſhould be ſent away in one of the veſſels, at the expence of the owners: But that he aſked one favour of them as Britiſh ſubjects, that none would think of idly ſtaying there, or going into the ſervice of any other country but their own; as they now were all men of property, and ſuch deſertion would be a forfeiture of it."

Every ſhip's crew in general declared their approbation of his command; and ſaid they would go with him ſo long as his ſhip could ſwim, ſuch was their general phraſe. This was more than was expected. Accordingly, after regaling themſelves a few days a-ſhore, when Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey had got ready the proper articles (which they themſelves ſigned in behalf of the managers, as their agents) above two thirds of the men entered themſelves for another eight month's cruiſe; and every thing was put forward for the ſea with the greateſt expedition. A ſufficient number of them took the wages, and ſet to work upon equipping the ſhips. A few indeed of the men who had entered, following ſome idle ones who had not, after ſelling their ſhares of the prizes, went off to the Spaniards, moſtly ſeduced by ſome emiſſaries belonging to that court, who for ſuch purpoſe uſually ply at Liſbon. Whereupon, Mr. Walker, as he had his ſpies ready ſet, fearing the occaſion, immediately applied to Sir Benjamin Keen, who readily aſſiſted in getting an order for apprehending them: by which they were brought back, and ſecured in the trunk or priſon. They only who had

entered

entered and received the advance money, and afterwards deſerted, were kept priſoners until the time of our ſailing; and thoſe who had not, Mr. Walker took care to ſee embarked for England by the firſt opportunity. This conduct has been maliciouſly miſtold, to the diſcredit both of the managers and Mr. Walker, by one Goddard, an agent for the people. Of which more ſhall be ſaid hereafter. As to the remainder, being upwards of eight hundred men, no ſuch claſs of people ever behaved better, remarkable for cleanlineſs and an honeſt ſpirit. They dreſt in a uniform cockade, to diſtinguiſh themſelves; and the whole time of their refitting, which was near three months, not a complaint was made againſt them, not a broil or accident happened, except a diſpute, which one of our officers had, in point of religion, with ſome popiſh prieſts; and which had like to have ſent him to the inquiſition, as ſhall be hereafter related, for the purpoſe more of ſhewing the cauſe of ſuch cenſure, than any great entertainment in the matter itſelf: but we muſt firſt mention ſome other circumſtances which happened.

Captain Bromedge of the Prince Frederick, and captain Green of the Prince George, not chuſing to continue the ſea any longer, as they thought they had already made a ſufficiency for life; and Mr. Shaftoe, being offered the command of a trading veſſel belonging to the Portugueſe; they ſeverally deſired to lay down their commiſſions; and as Mr. Walker had an intire power of making or diſplacing all officers under his command, he removed captain Dottin, who had given many proofs of his good capacity, from the Duke into the Prince Frederick; captain Denham from the Princeſs Amelia into the Duke; and gave Mr. Riddle, the gentleman who had ſo bravely diſtinguiſhed himſelf in cutting out the veſſel from Saffia-bay, the command of the Princeſs Amelia; and Mr. Davidſon, one of his lieutenants, the command of the Prince George; and Mr. Hamilton, another of his lieutenants, the command of the Prince Edward; and preferred the lieutenants of the other

ſhips,

ſhips, and ſeveral of the midſhipmen, according to their ſeniority and merit. Numbers alſo of young gentlemen were ſent from England, with letters of recommendation from their friends to Mr. Walker, for commiſſions, and as volunteers and midſhipmen. Out of theſe all other vacancies were filled up. He then ſent home for new letters of marque for each of the ſhips, who were thus given new commanders; whereby alſo the Prince George tender now ranked with the fleet, as a cruiſing ſhip. Which new commiſſions were all regularly ſent back to him, in the names of the above gentlemen. The Prince Edward remained in her former ſtation and duty as an intelligence boat or tender, for tranſporting ſtores from one ſhip to another; which accuſtomary uſe of her the ſaid ingenious Mr. Goddard has endeavoured to repreſent to the legiſlature, as a piratical act in the managers, and Mr. Walker, for introducing her into the fleet without a commiſſion. So weak are tales which envy or malice will often tell to indulge their own ſpleen or intentions!

The allowance agreed to by the managers for the men out of the prize-money, was ten moidores each, including their entrance-money. This not being ſufficient for a three months ſtay, Mr. Walker, whoſe credit was now alſo eſtabliſhed with the agents on his own footing, to avoid ſending home to alter inſtructions, took up ſums, on his own account, as the men wanted more money; and ſo lent it to them, taking their notes or receipts for the ſame. By this means he knew their ſpendings, and being thereby a kind of check on them, almoſt fixed them to an allowance. This was a great good to the men, an eaſe and benefit to the managers, but a loſs to himſelf.—Of which in its place.

As to our proviſions, the managers at home engaged to ſend them to us from England, by the time calculated, that the fleet would be ready for the ſea: but they not coming according to their own promiſes, and after our depending on them ſo long, that the delay threatened a greater loſs than the value of them,

the agents thought it beſt to buy proviſions at Liſbon, ſufficient for four months, as we could not venture to ſea with a leſs quantity, and as we ſhould return in that time for thoſe from England. This was done, and moſt of the proviſions put on board, when a few days before we were ready to ſail, the two tranſports with eight months proviſions arrived from England, dearer and worſe than what we bought at Liſbon. We then took in our full complement from the Engliſh ſtores, intending at the above expiration, to put in again to Liſbon for the remainder.

This expence ſo greatly ſwelling the charges at Liſbon, has been ill-naturedly ſet down by public report to the bad oeconomy of Mr. Walker; but is a ſubject which can be greatly enlarged on, to his exoneration.

It may be aſked, what became of the negociation of the Spaniſh captain and ſupercargo, relating to the ranſom of the Buen Conſejo? or how the prizes were diſpoſed of? This was at preſent no buſineſs of ours, but of the managers: ours being only to take prizes, theirs to diſpoſe of them as well as they could.

During the time of our refitting, an Engliſh packet-boat, the King George, ſtruck in going over the bar, and was loſt near the wooden-fort on the ſouth ſide. As we then were lying below the caſtle of Belem, we had immediate opportunity of ſeeing her diſtreſs. The commodore quickly ſent the Prince Edward tender, and four of our boats well-manned, to her aſſiſtance. They were juſt in time to ſave all the people, the mail, ſome valuables, and all the money, to a very conſiderable ſum. But here a cataſtrophe happened: poor Cabel, the witty conductor of the plot of getting the men from the Exeter privateers for the Boſcawen and other ſhips at Dartmouth, in ſaving the money from the packet, let a little part of it fall into his own pockets. He certainly deſerved ſome reward for his briſk agility in preſerving it: but, alas! the world will allow no rewards but what come from its own giving: ſelf-rewards are thought to be taking that power out of its hands, and are

therefore

therefore often punished as a theft. 'Tis therefore I imagine the philosophers allowed one thing only to be its own reward, namely, virtue; because it is generally left unrewarded by the world. This affair having been found out by a quarrel in the distribution, in which were also involved an officer and two other men, the commodore first collected the money, to the amount of about fifty pounds, and sent it to the captain of the packet; and at the same time having secured his pardon for the delinquents, he dismissed them with disgrace. Indeed they all desired leave to withdraw: for though it may appear wonderful to tell, the crime was universally disclaimed against by our whole crews. To such a regularity of mind had the regularity of action at last brought the whole!

The affair, which happened in a dispute about religion, is this: There is an assembly of priests very near Lisbon, several of them Irish, impowered by public contributions to give cloaths and money to all whom they can gain as converts from any state of heresy to the doctrine of their own church. Hither some of our crew in frolic went, to be white washed, as the phrase is among them, for this new inward and outward cloathing. But they, turning truants to the new doctrine, and coming back to us again, gave such a whimsical description of the method in which the priests treated them, that it raised the desire of Mr. Kennaway, our surgeon, (a gentleman we before spoke of as a man of a lively turn of wit and expression) to go see the ceremony and manner. Accordingly, he drest himself in a common jacket, and taking some of the men with him, as comrades, he set out on the new pilgrimage. He told them, "if he accepted their doctrine, he would accept their cloathing; but had honour not to wear their livery, unless he entered truly into their service." This introduction, having an appearance of well meaning, was greatly applauded by the reverend fathers. But, alas! he made another discovery to them, a little more astonishing: which was, "that he had no religion at all; and so begged them to begin with him from the

firſt, in a regular courſe of inſtruction." This was but meer humour in him; his father having originally intended him for a clergyman, and verſed him well in texts of ſcripture; ſufficient, if not to fix the grounds of any religion, to make him a diſputant in all. It had the effect he intended, by putting them to a confuſion how to proceed with him in a general plan; the prieſts of the Romiſh perſwaſion being obſerved to be more induſtrious of finding arguments in defence of their own particular church, againſt the various ſyſtems ſet up in oppoſition to their political ſchemes or deſigns, and in ſupport of forms and ceremonies, than in comprehending and explaining any connected doctrine of reaſon and ſenſe, inſtructive to a pure underſtanding.

I ſhall not enter into any diſcuſſion of their ſeveral propoſitions and arguments, queſtions and anſwers; but ſhall under favour relate one of his ſtories, as he told it to the prieſts, by way of example to one of his arguments; becauſe I think it has in it a great deal of good humour and good ſenſe; in all probability, the ready invention of his own brain.

"There were, ſays he, a Romiſh monk, a Ruſſian prieſt, a Preſbyterian, a Quaker, a Moravian methodiſt, and a poor tranſported Proteſtant clergyman, all in one ſhip, going a voyage to the Weſt-Indies; but being bound to Africa to take in ſlaves, they were met by a ſtorm, and wrecked much lower down the coaſts than where the trade generally reached to. The black king of the place received them into his kingdom with great civility, and being all white men and calling themſelves each by the common name of chriſtians, he imagined them all the ſame people, and provided for them in places about him. When they were got into employment, and had learned the language of the country, they each offered to convert him and his people to the true religion. Upon which, he ordered a certain day to be fixed, to hear them argue on the new doctrine. The monk begun; but before he had got to the third ſentence, *that's a lie*, cries the Ruſſian prieſt, interrupting him. The black

king

king ſtarted at the contradiction: however, they went on in oppoſing each other, very loud and angry, till at laſt the Preſbyterian took up the cudgels, and ſwore *that they both were ſons of the whore of Babylon.* "*Hey day!* ſays the prince, *another diviſion among you!*" When the Moravian, fetching many groans, as made his majeſty and the whole court believe him in a fit of the gripes, brought forth, *How wrathfully is my inward ſpirit moved at ſuch diabolical preachings of this Preſbyterian:* for he agreed (he ſaid) with the two foregoing churches in all their ſtratagems, though he had found out a new light for performing them. Upon this the Quaker, alſo moved by paſſion, breaks out: *Thou canting ſcoundrel! thou pretendeſt to a new light who art for leading other people in the dark!* The jargon then grew more promiſcuous, to the great confuſion of the royal judgment. But the king, whilſt the reſt were engaged in the diſpute, at laſt ſpoke aſide to the Proteſtant (who had not yet opened his mouth) deſiring him to take himſelf and his brethren along with him out of his dominions, leſt they ſhould mention a word of this religion to his people. *O pleaſe your majeſty*, ſays the clergyman, *though all theſe chriſtians be in the wrong, yet I alone am in the right; and can ſhew your majeſty and people the only true doctrine, which by my deportment you ſee is peace. Theſe people are no other than different ſects ſprung from me or different opinions of one belief.* "*If that be the caſe,* replies the king, *I muſt inſiſt on your immediate departure: for I fear your doctrine admits of ſo many contradicting opinions, you are not well aſſured of it yourſelf; at leaſt it is too dangerous a one to be introduced amongſt my people, all of whom, I thank* GOD, *now live in brotherly union and affection.*" The king then put them together in a bark, and judging the Engliſh prieſt the moſt temperate of the whole, he put the rudder into his hand, to carry them ſafe to ſome port. Thus the true doctrine is denied gaining ground in the world, by the various contradictions of the ſeveral teachers of it.

This ſtory being told with great force of application, and all the advantages of a peculiar dialect, to the ſeveral perſons of the drama, (at which merit we do not pretend in the writing) made the aſſembly of ghoſtly fathers ſo very angry at one of the poor natural children of ſenſe, that, where they certainly might have been informed, they loſt the moral. So much does prejudice or enthuſiaſm blind reaſon's eyes!——Upon the whole, he had too much power both of reaſon and wit to make it an equal contention. Where reaſon had ſcope for an advantage, he puſhed her againſt them, generally ſo well ſupported by wit, that where they ſhould have embraced information, they only grew paſſionate; damned him for an heretic, an unbeliever, and offspring of the devil.

Had he ſtopped here, all would have been well; but his wit out-run his prudence. In ſhort, he ſo provoked them by advancing plain ſenſe againſt myſtery, that, when they found their whole ſuperſtructure overturned from off the foundation on which they had built it, they looked on him as an agent from the devil, and, calling him a blaſphemer, abſolutely took him into cuſtody, and he was eſpecially detained.

The reſt of his companions returned home, with a poor account of their expedition, to the commodore; who next day went to Sir Benjamin Keene, and found that the order of prieſts had inſtantly made complaint of the affair to the patriarch. He is the higheſt prieſt in power, next the pope, in all the Chriſtian world; having been inſtituted by the king in direct oppoſition to the papal authority, on account of ſome political quarrel with that chair, who as politically ſoon made it up; for it is ſaid the payments or indulgences alone granted to this country in the time of Lent, for eating eggs, &c. bring into that ſee upwards of an hundred thouſand pounds ſterling each year. However, though the pope is again acknowledged ſupreme, this patriarch ſtill holds up his firſt created grandeur, and is ſerved by biſhops on the knee. Their application to him was for leave to deliver over the heretic ſailor to the inquiſition; and it

was

was believed he would be given up to that reſentment, contrary to cuſtom, tho' not precedent, of meddling with Engliſh proteſtants. But the matter being called before the king for his conſent or approbation (as it was of a foreign nature) his majeſty declared "that the Engliſh ſubjects were free to enjoy their own way of thinking," and ordered him to be releaſed.

Thus Mr. Kennaway for this time got off unhurt. I have mentioned that he was the only gentleman, who, of thoſe going to Spain with recommendations from Mr. Walker, was obliged to return before he had compleated his purpoſe of making a fortune amongſt them, which happened on account of a like accident to this, in viſiting a friend of his, an Engliſh captain of a ſhip, in a fit of illneſs; round whom he found a gathered heap of prieſts torturing the poor ſick man's brains on all the various racks of extortion. With them he could not help taking up the argument, and managed it againſt them ſo much to the recovery of his friend's ſenſes, as to have them all diſmiſſed the houſe. On this a complaint having been made to the inquiſition, the governor of the place, with whom he had acquired a moſt friendly intimacy, ſent him a letter with great privacy, wiſhing him a good journey, and expreſſing "how ſorry he was that their place or climate was too hot for his Engliſh conſtitution:" on which he took the hint, and made his eſcape. It is therefore very dangerous to venture at any church-reformation in thoſe countries.

But to ſhew the ſpirit of our men on the above occaſion, and in what a rank they rated themſelves, I muſt mention a whimſical inſtance of their politeneſs. The Portugal court in this late order had ſo much obliged them, that, as the accident happened a little before we were ready for ſailing, all the crews went in a body, to the number of upwards of eight hundred, dreſt neatly in new cockades, with muſick playing before them to the palace-gates, to thank the king for his royal interpoſition in their favour; and being by order let into an inner-court, the queen and

prince came publicly to an open balcony, and received from them three cheers of thanks with very ſeeming pleaſure. This was done without the previous knowledge of the commodore, who the next day went to a particular nobleman at court, to whom he had the honour of being known, to excuſe it to the king. His majeſty aſſured him by the nobleman, he took it in its true light of a civility; and as he was then indiſpoſed, (for he was terribly afflicted with the palſy, being as to all uſe of his limbs, quite dead on one ſide by it) deſired Mr. Walker might be introduced to him on another day. But as the time fixed for our departure would not admit of a ſecond viſit, Mr. Walker was obliged to poſtpone that ceremony of honour intended him, till another opportunity. His majeſty thereupon ſent out to him his good wiſhes for a proſperous and ſucceſsful cruiſe.

We may ſuppoſe a great deal of the indulgence ſhewn in this late affair by the court, was owing to the active intereſt Mr. Walker made on the occaſion, through Sir Benjamin Keene and ſome Portugueſe noblemen, who had viſited him during the time of our refitting, which has fixed no little or invaluable privilege to the Engliſh ſubjects.

When the ſhips were equipped, ſeveral Portugueſe companies came on board to ſee them; for as to neatneſs and order, nothing of the kind could be ſuperior. Mr. Walker was alſo particularly honoured in the acquaintance of the duke of Hamilton, who then was at Liſbon for his health. His grace frequently took the pleaſures of the water; at which times, during our refitting, Mr. Walker often took the opportunity of carrying his grace in his own barge, attended by others with muſic, &c. We have heard that Mr. Walker has at home been cenſured for an elegance in his frequent entertainments. I will own them beyond the uſual rank of his brother ſea-captains; but if I may have leave to interpoſe my own judgment, what I always admitted as elegant and a compliment to the perſon invited, I could never cenſure as extravagant. He was always happy in the

notice

notice of people of faſhion, and no wonder if others, who envied him their company, invent ſomething to find fault with: However, the money he ſpent was ſolely his own; and the greateſt entertainment he made was on the occaſion of our being compleatly equipped, when his grace of Hamilton dined on board: Mr. Walker had five barges lying at the ſhore to receive him. As he was upon the water, he was ſaluted by two of our king's ſhips, which were then lying in the river, and by all the ſhips of our own fleet, as he paſſed them. The ſalutes were with the ſmall arms and manning of the ſhips; for, by his Portugueſe majeſty's orders, no great guns are allowed to be fired above the caſtle of Belem. When the duke came in proſpect of the King George, we appeared with only our common enſign, jack, and pennant flying; but as he drew near, the men being placed all over the ſeveral parts of her on the ſtays, yards, bowſprit, ſhrouds, and gunnels, with the different and various colours of all the maritime nations of the world rolled up in their hands, at the beat of a drum let them all fly in an inſtant; which hid the ſhip in a ſudden metamorphoſis, as in an heap of painted waves, and made an appearance in the tranſition very beautiful and ſtriking. At which his grace expreſſed a pleaſure that would have complimented a performance of greater merit; nor was his politeneſs leſs expreſſive as to other parts of the entertainment.

If it may not be thought too tedious a delay to ſtop the reader for an account of a very odd and ſtrange exorciſm, or caſting out of a devil, which we were witneſſes to, we will give a deſcription of it for its novelty.

It may be aſked, why ſo many of our remarks concerning theſe countries are touching religion? We anſwer, that in thoſe Romiſh countries of Europe, it is the chief thing attracts notice; other cuſtoms and manners being much the ſame as with us. Indeed it is the moſt uſeful characteriſtic to be remarked to our countrymen, as in our ſuperiority to it chiefly conſiſts our ſuperiority over them. We ſhall therefore tell it very ſhortly.

Mr. Walker attended his grace of Hamilton, in a tour or party of pleaſure, about twenty-five or thirty miles from Liſbon, to Maffra and Sentrin : at the firſt of which places, is the greateſt and moſt beautiful palace of modern architecture in the known world, being a palace, convent, and church, all in one, built of white marble, highly poliſhed on the inſide, and reckoned to have coſt upwards of ten millions ſterling. At the laſt, is another of extream Gothic antiquity, and eſteemed a work of equal curioſity of its kind, having been built by the Moors when they were in poſſeſſion of the country. In which is a large hall of great extent, wherein are ſome hundreds of marble pillars, through which they uſed to perform their Mooriſh dances. The duke, after taking an attentive review of both theſe ſtructures, and their ſeveral curioſities, returned to Liſbon. Mr. Walker and ſome of his company went forward to Calcavello, where was a prieſt famous for caſting out devils ; we were obſervers of the ceremony, it being performed in a public church. The ſubject he worked on was a young woman, who in one ſenſe was no impoſtreſs, as ſhe certainly imagined herſelf inwardly poſſeſſed with an evil dæmon. But how the ſpirit came there was as certainly owing to the prepoſſeſſions of the prieſt himſelf, who purpoſely terrified the poor creature into a belief of it.

The occaſion was this : a family in the place being ſuperſtitiouſly affected at ſome accidents happening in the houſe, imagined it poſſeſſed with a devil, and ſent for a prieſt to turn the devil out. The prieſt ſearching the houſe for him, at laſt found him in the maid-ſervant. She, naturally alarmed thereat, and frightened to a degree of terror, which reaches near the borders of frenzy, could not help feeling, what he ſaid he ſaw and converſed with in her ; and at this operation, to which ſhe was publicly brought, it was he ſaw and ſpoke to the devil in her, not ſhe who complained ; he, with ſudden ſtartings, frequently crying out, that the devil was now here in her, now there. Then he made pretences of whiſpering

pering him; whilſt at every word or touch, the poor terrified creature ſhuddering in belief, ſhrieked with fear; or feared from her ſenſes, dropt into ſwoons, or fell into fits or agonies of laughing, weeping, or convulſed inſenſibility. All which was beheld with admiration by the crowd, as the violent tearings and workings of the ſpirit. When ſhe recovered from the fit, he was ready to throw her, ſtill frightened and trembling, into another; till at laſt, judging by her paſſions (of which he ſeemed a cunning maſter, and in which his whole ſecret appeared to us to conſiſt) when was the proper time to produce the devil, he pulled him, as he ſaid, with a roar out of her mouth, and ſaw him fly away, being the only man in the company who did. The poor girl, ſatisfied that the ſpirit was gone, began to recover; but was ſo weak and enfeebled, that I dare ſay ſhe took a woman's full time in ſuch re-eſtabliſhment of herſelf after this her delivery. The prieſt was thought to have done a great work, and was almoſt worſhipped by the believing multitude, as having performed an apoſtolic miracle. In which pretence he run no riſque of being detected of impoſture; for if he had drove his patient into madneſs, he had ſtill been ſafe from the imputation, or even ſuppoſition of ſuch practice; as the madneſs would have been attributed to the great power the devil had over her, which again would have been aſcribed to her own ſin.

The cheat was ſo very palpable to us, that I cannot ſay whether we were moved more with anger at the villainy of the pretending prieſt, or pity at the blinded belief of the by-ſtanding people. But in the doubt where to fix; we ſoon dropt our paſſions, and recalled our thoughts to a conſideration of ourſelves in thanks to God, who had brought us into this world under his happier diſpenſation, or light of reaſon. The proſpect of our enlightened country appeared before us; and we ſaw what we hope each individual in it will believe, that a Britiſh peaſant, born to liberty of mind, as well as perſon, is, in his own ſtate, a more noble exiſtence of man than the rich potentates

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of thoſe countries, whoſe minds have ſubmitted from their youth to have the chains and ſhackles of prejudice and ſuperſtition put upon them, and which they muſt ever after wear and drag on in old age, as the ſlaves of prieſtly impoſition, and of its aſſociate, tyranny; for the loſs of the mind's freedom is the certain conſequence of the general loſs of liberty. Hence let every human being of Britain know, how great a treaſure they have to defend in their own country: for ſhould we know its loſs, the forfeiture of life would appear an eaſy price of re-purchaſing that natural right of our exiſtence, to hand it down a bleſſing to poſterity; which they have alſo a further right in, as we received it from our fathers.

CHAP. VII.

The entire loſs of the Prince Edward tender. Taking the St. Juan Baptiſta. An account of the vice-roy on board. Taking two Spaniſh ſettees. And the engagement with the Glorioſo, a Spaniſh man of war. And our return to Liſbon.

FRIDAY, July the 10th, 1747, O. S. the commodore made ſignal to weigh. Our fleet were

Private Ships of War.

The King George.	Commodore.	
Prince Frederick.	Edward Dottin.	Capts.
Duke	Rob. Denham.	
Princeſs Amelia.	Andrew Riddle.	
Priuce George.	Fr. Davidſon.	
Prince Edward Tender.	Fred. Hamilton.	

in the whole one hundred and fourteen carriage guns, beſides ſwivels, and a compleat thouſand men. Next day we proceeded to our ſtation, which was to cruiſe between Cape Cantin on the Barbary coaſt, and Cape St. Mary's on the Portugueze.

But almoſt as ſoon as we got to our ſtation, a fatal accident happened the Prince Edward tender; for

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on the thirteenth, having the day before ſeen a large fleet of ſhips to the number of twenty, and being in cloſe chace of them, as ſhe crouded ſail after us, we ſaw her on a ſudden reel ſtrangely in the water, and then founder ſtern foremoſt, contrary to all other ſhips in ſinking, as they generally go down by the head. All the boats were got out as ſoon as poſſible; but notwithſtanding every aſſiſtance, the only perſons ſaved were Mr. Hamilton and two men, who kept themſelves above water by their own ſwimming, till the boats got to them; all the reſt periſhed to about ten. Surprizing it is to think how deficient our common ſeamen in general are in that exerciſe, ſo very eſſential to their profeſſion! This ſad cataſtrophe was occaſioned by her mainmaſt ſtarting out of the ſtep in which it was placed, not having had ſufficient hold thereof; for by the ſtraining of it in crouding ſail, the heel ſlipt out, and then the maſt again plunging downwards by the weight of the ſhrouds and ſails upon it, run through her bottom, and ſunk her inſtantly; the weight of the maſt ſlipping backwards, ſending her down by the ſtern as before deſcribed. The ſhips we were in chace of proved to be a fleet of Dutchmen, under convoy of two men of war of ſixty guns each, from Malaga to Liſbon.

Watching in our ſtation about 12 o'clock at noon, Auguſt the ninth, wind N. N. E. Cape Spartel bearing E. by N. diſtant about eight leagues, our ſhip was all on a ſudden becalmed, and as it were, ſtruck motionleſs. Every ſhip alſo, as they came up one after another, having the wind with them to the ſpot where we lay becalmed, the moment they reached us, dropt their ſails, and there we all lay as in a regular line of battle. As not a ruffle moved along the ſurface, the ſea became an entire mirror, and ſo continued moſt of the next day; which, though a ſcene of ſurprizing beauty from the ſtillneſs of the whole, and the clear reflection of the ſhips and their breathleſs pennants in the water, yet the time appeared tedious even to an irkſomeneſs, and our own ſilence at the occaſion ſeemed to join the ſleep of nature.

ture. The very muſick loſt its ſweetneſs and grew inſipid, and every attempt in it to ſprightlineſs in power failed; which ſhews us the unhappineſs of an inactive ſtate, and that man is formed to be employed. When the wind ſprung up, a tranſport in us roſe with it at our releaſe from inactivity, as at being ſet free from an impriſonment.

At this time we ſtruck a dolphin, which was not uſual here, it being always in purſuit of the flying fiſh, who moſtly frequent the Mediterranean and Weſt-Indies; and who, to avoid him, will often light upon the decks of ſhips. The dolphin as it dies changes to a thouſand various colours of exquiſite fire and beauty. From its boldneſs or familiarity in following ſhips, the old fable of its great love to mankind may have taken riſe; but as painters in the tradition of its figure which they have handed down to us, ſeem to have miſtaken its ſhape, deſcribing it more like the ſeal, dog-headed and high-backed (whereas it is ſhaped moſt like the ſalmon, longer and thinner) we may juſtly conclude the name has been miſuſed or wrong applied. Some people conjecture, that the fiſh meant by the dolphin is the porpoiſe, which ſpecies is equally familiar, and will follow a ſhip in great numbers for ſeveral days; and which, from its roll or play in the water, always appears curved, though a ſtraight fiſh in itſelf: beſides, the dolphin is of delicate flavour and very wholſome, which the others are not. This ſeems alſo to corroborate the above ſuppoſition; for, to my beſt recollection, we have never heard of the ancients eating the dolphin, and they ſeemed to ſearch the earth, air, and ſeas for delicacies, with equal ſkill as the moderns. But what moſt of all favours the conjecture is, that the true dolphin is ſeldom ſeen in the Mediterranean, whereas the porpoiſes roll there in great numbers.

On the night of the ſeventeenth, the Prince George tender did not anſwer the falſe fires made from the reſt of the fleet, and being miſſing the next morning and the ſucceeding days, we imagined that through ſome diſtreſs, ſhe had turned back, or put into port.

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This was the greater loſs to us on account of the former accident to the Prince Edward, as we had in frequent ſervices experienced the uſe of theſe ſmall tenders.

On the twentieth, about ten in the morning, in ſight of the Barbary Coaſt, we ſaw a ſtrange ſail to leeward, and made ſignals for chaſing: but there being little or no wind, we gained on her very ſlowly all that day, In the evening, we hoiſted out the barge and yawl, and ſent them after her, leſt ſhe ſhould alter her courſe in the night: ſo did the Prince Frederick and the Duke theirs. At five in the evening our yawl returned, not being able to keep a-head of the ſhip: we were ſtill out of reach of the chaſe, but at eight the barges got up with her, when ſhe fired two ſhots at them, which they returned with their ſmall-arms; but in an hour after, we loſt ſight both of our barges and the chaſe, they bearing W. S. W. about two miles diſtance; for now the wind freſhened, and the weather grew cloudy. Violent lightnings alſo came on, ſo as frequently to ſet the whole air at once in a flaſh of fire. At other times we ſaw the lightning at ſome diſtance pour down from the ſkies in pointed ſtreams of fire, and the claps of thunder broke ſo loud and near us, as made the ſcene terrible. Whether from the ſound itſelf, or diſtant ecchoes of it I cannot ſay, but the noiſe ſometimes ſeemed below us, which brought to my recollection, at once, the deſcription and ſolution of the like circumſtance, of a ſtorm in the Æneid, where it ſays, "The poles thundered". Thank God! we had here but half of that deſcription to encounter, the wind not riſing to any violence. About midnight it grew exceeding dark: we and the other ſhips made falſe fires for our barges, which were anſwered by ſome of them. A little afterwards the Duke's barge fell in with the Prince Frederick, and they hoiſted her in: the next morning we ſaw the chaſe again, and our barge attending her, but no ſight of the Prince Frederick's, wherein were fifteen of the beſt ſailors of the ſhip: but as by the commodore's orders, all boats ſent upon

theſe expeditions, conſtantly took with them a ſtore of water, ſome proviſions, and a compaſs, in caſe of loſing the ſhips by night or fogs; ſo it was hoped that theſe poor fellows being provided with all theſe neceſſaries, would make ſome place of ſafety.

About ſix, we came up with the chaſe, who did not ſtrike her colours till the Prince Frederick had fired a fourth gun at her, which appeared the more perverſe as the fleet was in view. She was the St. Juan Baptiſta, burthen eighty tons, a Spaniſh tartan, from the Canaries bound to Cadiz, with money and cocoa; which cargo was ſaid to be part of the treaſure of the Hector and Henry, the very ſhips which we before mentioned, we were originally intended to go in queſt of. Her money was not above ſix thouſand pounds; but her other cargo was rich. The money was put on board the King George, and the cocoa and other valuable effects on board the other ſhips; and Mr. Hamilton, who before had the command of the Prince Edward tender, was put on board the prize with a proper number of men. The captain of her was a Frenchman, who with two Spaniſh gentlemen, paſſengers, came on board the commodore. One of them was a vice-roy, a man of great fortune, who as the higheſt in rank was moſt humble of any through a ſenſe of the civilities he received, and moſt ready in acknowledging them.

But the firſt care, after ſecuring the prize, was to ſend in ſearch of the poor fellows, who were miſſing; wherefore the commodore diſpatched captain Hamilton in the prize to the firſt port on the Portugueſe ſhore, with letters of credit to be forwarded for them to the ſeveral correſpondents at Faro, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, in hopes that they had got hold of ſome part of that ſhore: and in caſe they had been obliged to put over to the Morocco coaſt, he likewiſe gave further directions to the laſt correſpondents to forward letters of credit to Sallee and Santa Cruz; and himſelf followed with the fleet, intending to water at Faro.

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On the next day we chaſed three large ſail of ſhips. They were the Jerſey man of war, captain Hardy, the Spence ſloop, and Enterprize; who gave us the agreeable news of their having met the Prince George tender, about eight days before off Cape St. Mary's; and two days afterwards we received an account by another chaſe, that ſhe and the Tartan prize were both ſafe at Faro. The ſame day alſo, the Prince Frederick received the news, by a ſhip ſhe met, of her barge being ſafe with all her crew, at a Spaniſh port about ten leagues to the eaſtward of Faro, called High-mount. They had been ſeparated from our ſhips in that dreadful night, by a hurricane, which caught them in particular; and were out at ſea eight days and nights, before they reached the ſhore: ſo that it was the greateſt goodneſs of Providence, which foretold them to take ſuch proviſions with them as they did. For as it was, they were drove to the greateſt hardſhips and terrors of mind, not having a morſel left them for the laſt day before they ſaw land, except ſome water and brandy, after having ſcanted themſelves to a poor pittance for the former days; and at laſt they were obliged to ſubmit themſelves priſoners to an enemy's country.

On the twenty-fifth, the commodore ſtood in for Faro to water, when the Prince George joined us. Here we righted our ſhips, and proceeded to Lagos Bay, on purpoſe to land there the Spaniſh gentlemen, captain and priſoners. The commodore ſent with the vice-roy, as a compliment of a guard, an equal number of the Spaniſh priſoners, to be, when got to High-mount (as it was the firſt Spaniſh town in his way homeward) exchanged for our men. And alſo begged him to deliver ſome letters of credit, which carried orders for them, when the cartel was ſettled, to come round to him at Liſbon; for it would have treſpaſſed too far on the time of our cruiſe, to have waited for them till they could have come to Faro.

This gentleman, when aboard, took great pleaſure in obſerving the behaviour and cuſtoms of the common ſeamen, and expreſſed his approbation of many

particularities

particularities in them, not out of meer complaiſance, but always giving very ſenſible reaſons for his remarks. One obſervation among many, much ſuperior to it, tho' too tedious to be here introduced, I cannot help remarking for the common familiarity of it to us; eſpecially as a contrary reaſoning on the ſame ſubject has generally ſeemed to take place.

It was always Mr. Walker's rule to promote as much exerciſe as poſſible among the men, by planning out various diverſions for them which created ſwetting: being convinced, that the ſea-ſcurvy increaſed itſelf, or took moſt root in a ſluggiſh blood; and that by frequent moderate perſpirations, thoſe ſalts might be worked off, or melted by ſweating, which would otherwiſe corrode, or fix themſelves in a matter, which, ſo let to reſt, would in a little time grow too heavy or hard to be puſhed or waſhed off. However right his opinion may be, he by this practice always kept his men in every ſhip ſweet and healthful. A caſe of foils always lay on the quarter-decks, for the uſe and exerciſe of the officers, and cudgels lay on the other decks for the common men. At which, all took their turns. Our Spaniſh gentleman was moſt delighted at the cudgel-playing, which was frequently performed on purpoſe before him by our beſt maſters of the art. As ſometimes a broken head was a proof of the maſterſhip, or the end of the entertainment; when he ſaw the blood come, and the wounded man in ſuch good humour with the conquered, as immediately to ſhake hands and drink together (which was the cuſtom) he always lifted up his eyes with amazement and admiration, and ſaid, that "he deſired no greater inſtance than that one low particular of two the greateſt inherent virtues which could bleſs a people in general, namely, courage and generoſity of ſoul; and that from this common circumſtance he was fully convinced of the peculiar greatneſs of the nation. With us, ſays he, the grandſon of the man who had loſt blood, would have owed a ſecret grudge to the children of the other, who had drawn it;

and

and in all probability would ſome time or other take an unfair opportunity of a bloody revenge."

If the reader has gained an opinion of this gentleman's ſenſe, and will not think a ſtory from him of himſelf an interruption to the preſent buſineſs; I ſhall venture to relate one after him, in as good a manner as I can. If the reader ſhould think that in ſome parts it puts on the air of a romance; I beg he may not charge me with ſuch taſte of writing, but conſider the perſons, who are the actors in it: whoſe country's favourite paſſion is love. In which, as of all people in the world they are moſt reſtrained in, ſo are they of any moſt ſcheming and venturous in purſuing it. The ſtory was introduced by ſome enquiry we made about the earthquake at Lima.

"To tell you my true loſſes, ſays he, I muſt begin very far back, even from my infancy. My father was vice-roy or governor of the place, of which I at preſent am. Dying, whilſt I was very young, he left me and my mother, with all his effects (which were perſonal and very conſiderable) in the care of the next great man of the place; who, by having been long in ſome public office there, had amaſſed a ſurpriſing fortune of the like kind: for Europeans, who fill thoſe great offices, ſeldom realize in the country the profits they make by it. This gentleman did not diſcharge the truſt, which my father placed in him, as he ought: for, in my younger days, I remember to have heard my mother make great complaints of his parſimony in his allowances to her and myſelf, as not conſiſtent with either of our characters, and injurious to the education I ought to have received. For the better part of which I was totally obliged to her particular care and early inſtruction of me; and though a woman, I have at this day no reaſon to complain of her tutorſhip; as ſhe was in the firſt place a perſon of ſtrict virtue, and had ſeveral other recommending accompliſhments. This circumſtance of my life has often furniſhed me with a ſtrong power of reflecting, how very eſſential in the conſideration of marriage is the choice of a wife woman, even be-

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yond beauty or fortune; for in caſe of any ill fate or accident happening the huſband, ſhe can then ſupply his place to his children. The firſt ſtroke of ill fortune I ſuffered was by an illneſs ſhe was ſeized with, which occaſioned her death. I was then a youth about fourteen years old. Even at that tender age her death-bed prognoſtications were very alarming to me, in recommending ſtrongly to my example the merits of my deceaſed father, as the better truſt for a future livelihood than any expectations of a fortune in my guardian's hands. After the duties of her funeral were performed, the firſt viſit I paid was to my guardian, deeply affected with the impreſſion which the words of my dying mother had made upon me. He very ſoon took occaſion to tell me, that I muſt now think of looking out for ſome buſineſs to enter into, my fortune in his hands being, as he ſaid, ſo very ſmall and inſignificant, thro' the extravagance and ill conduct of my father; at the ſame time he threw out ſome accuſations againſt him for his better generoſity. I had ſtrength of mind patiently to behold myſelf an outcaſt to the world. I had temper and ſpirit to bear and deſpiſe the avaricious fraud of ſo great a villain: but tho' I did not remember my father, yet having heard ſo many people talk of his virtues to me, I could not ſubmit to any lie or infamy to be ſcratched on the fair monument of his fame. I inſulted the old villain as a liar; I accuſed him of fraud, and upbraided him with ingratitude to his friend's remains. In ſhort, our paſſions on both ſides growing equally high (as he was not uſed to contradiction) we took up weapons againſt each other; and though he was in years, yet conſidering my boyhood, the match had in it no ungenerous inequality: however, I gained much the advantage; and when his ſervants with his daughter (who was his only child, and heir to all his fortune) interpoſed, my hand was faſtened to his throat, and I believe had ſoon ſtopped his life; but on her appearance I diſengaged me from my hold, and excuſing myſelf to her in a manner due to her affinity and my own juſtification,

retired.

retired. I then applied to ſome of my father's acquaintances for aſſiſtance to recover my fortune, or a genteel maintenance out of my guardian's hands. Every one almoſt anſwered me in dumb ſhew, with expreſſive ſhrugs, or commiſerating ſhakings of the head. Some indeed went ſo far as to give an opinion, "that it was a pity my father's ſon ſhould be put to any neceſſities for a genteel living;" and one or two promiſed me, that they would ſpeak to him for ſomething to be done in my behalf; but when I waited on them again for their anſwer, I was upbraided by them for my paſt conduct, in offering to lift my arm againſt my guardian, a ſecond parent; and diſmiſſed with a coolneſs that told me I was very undeſerving of favour. Under theſe circumſtances ſitting one morning alone, very penſive, a young negro girl left with my ſervant a preſent for me of a water-melon, wrapped up in a ſmall baſket; and went off before I could enquire to whom I was obliged. Taking it out, I found it very heavy, and could perceive it had been cut and joined together. It owed its weight to a large preſent of gold. My pride here got the better of my gratitude. What, ſaid I, am I become a dependant on charity, to be fed by alms? I threw it on the ground, and upbraided my ſervant for taking it in; but at laſt reaſon gained the rule, at my ſervant's offering to take it away out of my ſight. I took it up myſelf, and put to its proper uſes. There was a young gentleman of the place, a man of large fortune, my intimate and acquaintance: he was in love with my guardian's daughter, to whoſe courtſhip (as from ſeveral circumſtances there was no expectancy of gaining a father's conſent) I had been very adminiſtering in delivering letters, at the frequent viſits of buſineſs or ceremony which my mother uſed to pay the houſe; for ſhe always carried me with her. But I never was ſo ſucceſsful in my embaſſy as to bring my friend any anſwer back. Though I now could be no longer his aſſiſtant, and he knew it, yet I imagined this compliment to my diſtreſs came from him. I taxed him with it: he ſeriouſly diſclaimed

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the merit of it, but generouſly offered me his friendſhip in that or any other way in his power; and indeed he was the only ſolace of converſation and familiar of ſincere friendſhip I had at all times recourſe to. I on the other hand continued the truſty confidant of his love, and was generally his attendant to the ſilent window at night of his beautiful miſtreſs; who frequently was there to receeive us, and in her addreſs and behaviour was truly amiable, tho' no ways encouraging to the hopes of a lover, even to be complaiſant to me, notwithſtanding the diſorder of ſpirits my attack on her father had thrown her into, which I heard had coſt her a fit of illneſs. But amidſt all this friendſhip, which for upwards of four years was uninterrupted and lively, I never once was reduced to the bluſh of accepting the convenience of his purſe, though every day offered it. My ſtill unknown benefactor attacked me a thouſand ways with a like liberality, and took me every time unguarded. To tell the many and elegant ſtratagems made uſe of to deceive me into an eaſy acceptance of ſo much bounty, would take up more time than I ought to treſpaſs on you, for a recital of the whole ſtory. One morning I received a formal challenge from a perſon, unknown, to meet at a certain ſpot, but to bring no ſecond. I went, and at the appointed place, on a tree, hung a writing with theſe words in a woman's hand, *Strike at my heart.* I went to take it down, and found it only the outſide label of a weighty purſe of gold. Alas! ſaid I, ſmiling, you are a dangerous enemy to engage; and I own you have before conquered me: however, for this once, I take you away priſoner. Another time at night I was met by a ſlave, who rudely and ſuddenly threw a mantle or ſhort cloak over my head and face. I imagined an aſſaſſination. Villain, ſaid I, tearing it off my face, and drawing my ſword, when no perſon appearing, I took up the mantle, which was a fine piece of gold and ſilver embroidery in needlework, with theſe characters, *You have ſtruck my heart and ought to be my priſoner*; and at the four corners

hung

hung by way of toſſels four gold knit purſes, richly filled. Theſe kind of preſents grew ſo familiar to me, that I inſenſibly began to conceive I had ſome angel-ſteward above, who knew all my neceſſities, and provided accordingly: for I gave a looſe to the pleaſurable purſuits of youth, almoſt totally neglected my guardian's debt to me, or not conſidering it was any part of my dependance.

One day, my friend came to me with tranſports in his eyes and geſtures. "Read that letter, ſays he, from my dear Iſabella," throwing it on the table. When I took it up, my ſurprize kept equal pace with his joy, not ſo much at the contents, as at the hand, which I knew to be the ſame that wrote the label on the tree. However, the contents were ſufficient to cover all my confuſion, which my countenance expreſſed at it. They gave an account of her father then lying at the point of death, and deſired him to come to her houſe at a certain hour that night in a prieſt's habit, and to bring me with him dreſt in the like diſguiſe, when we ſhould be admitted on buſineſs of much importance. We attended in every particular conforming to the appointment, and were introduced to an apartment, where the lady made her appearance, and with great grace addreſſing herſelf to my friend, ſaid, "I dare ſay you will excuſe my aſking your aſſiſtance in this private manner, as it intends the ſervice of your friend. My father has now entered upon his laſt hour of intelligent life, being now in his ſenſes, which he obtains at intervals between very violent deliriums. His phyſicians aſſure me, that his next fit of frenzy will be his end. I know the high demand this gentleman has on him for a fortune, which for ſome purpoſes, of which I am ignorant, has been concealed. I mean to make no excuſes for my father, where heaven has taken away all excuſe by giving ſuch abundant bleſſings to his peculiar ſhare. I have therefore ſollicited an account from him; but he declines giving any to me, ſaying, he will make confeſſions of it to his fathers, and give a ſufficient reſtitution to them. Now, Sir,

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as I am willing to do juſtice to this injured gentleman, I conſidered that the church would conceal the confeſſion, to ſecure to itſelf the gift of reſtitution; and as my father is now ſo far ſpent, as not to be able to diſcover the fraud, which I mean with a good intention to impoſe upon him; if I have your conſent to it, I will admit you into the chamber to take his confeſſion; and as none other except his phyſicians have been admitted to him in his deliriums, you need fear no preſent interruption or future detection. If you ſatisfy yourſelves about the particulars, as to the fortune, you may depend upon my after execution of what is juſt; and I dare ſay, I ſhall do his ſoul more good by a return of the whole to the proper owner, than by any gift to the church of a part." This was ſpoke with ſuch a tender duty for a dying father, as viſibly revealed in her a fear and concern for his having done amiſs; at the ſame time it ſhewed ſuch an unbounded generoſity of mind, that we could not but admire the whole with wonder as in ſilence. We were accordingly admitted into the chamber where the ſick man lay, who by a glimmering light was ſo eaſily deceived in us as to reveal the important ſecret. For my friend played the prieſt extremely well; and being a man of humour, bartered much about the ſum to be paid to the church in the place of reſtitution. For my part I was almoſt totally ſilent, but oftentimes could ſcarcely refrain my ſmiles. When we withdrew, his daughter waited to receive us. I was almoſt afraid to repeat the ſum mentioned, leſt the largeneſs of it (as it was very conſiderable) ſhould be beyond what her generoſity, though great, had intended to beſtow. She did not ſhew the leaſt ſurprize at it; but telling us that ſhe would at the proper time aſk us to a more public viſit, wiſhed us good night, as, ſhe ſaid, ſhe had ſome ceremonies to ſee diſcharged to her father in his next return of frenzy, which was now every moment expected; recommending it to us to keep this affair in the mean time a ſecret. The next day we received a public account of her father's dying mad, under the office of extream unction.

unction. I dare ſay from the witneſs I myſelf was to his latter moments, that the frenzy of his mind was but the outſide illneſs, or effect of a troubled conſcience within.

My next reflections you may imagine were upon the paſt behaviour of my guardian angel, for ſuch her appearance in her whole conduct was to me. My friend was greatly alert and elevated, prethinking her his future bride; nor did his generoſity and love for me envy me my future expectations of ſuch a promiſed fortune, diminiſhing his own; but I was in no ſmall pain on his account. I was conſcious of her regard for me in the many tokens ſent with the multitude of her bounties. I could then plainly diſcover a reſervedneſs in her to him in our late interview, and well account for her former exactneſs of addreſs and decorum through all the paſt, flattering myſelf that the frequent opportunities ſhe gave him of nightly ſcenes at her window, were owing to her deſire of my company, and ſo it was. The time was not long before ſhe ſent for us, ſooner indeed than we could ſuppoſe her affairs in a readineſs. Our invitation was to an entertainment where were many of her friends, before whom ſhe took an opportunity of acquainting me, "that her father before his death had mentioned to a friend, that ſuch a portion of his perſonal effects belonged to me; but that ſhe believed he had in his paſſion deſtroyed moſt of my papers on receiving the late affront from me: wherefore if I was content with the account, ſhe was ready to return it." You may again judge my happineſs, and the whole company's approbation and wonder at her beauteous conduct. Even my friend was to his coſt delighted; but afterwards, when the firſt ſallies of my joy began to give way to reflection, I ſunk into a ſevere melancholy and thought how to diſcharge myſelf with honour between love and friendſhip. You cannot be ſurprized, if I ſay, I ſincerely was in love, and gratitude alſo threw its ſtronger bonds on my inclinations. I bleſſed my fate that had ſo ſeparated us for the paſt years, leſt by growing up with her perfections, I had become ſo

familiar to them (which is often the caſe between brother and ſiſter) as not to feel the ſtrong notice of them, which I did by being awaked at once into the light. I ſaw her paſſion for me at every inſtance diſcover itſelf, and even my friend now began to think her behaviour too reſerved to his courtſhip, as ſhort of his expectations, or ſelf-promiſes of her favour; and perceiving alſo my alteration of mind, he inſiſted, as I thought, with a jealouſy upon knowing the cauſe. I thought it more conſiſtent with our friendſhip to reveal to him, that it was upon his account I had entertained any concern at my preſent fortune, and diſcloſed my whole breaſt to him, and my opinions of her love. His eyes were opened; he ſaw the truth as clear as I did; confuſion of mind and loſs of all ſenſe deprived him of himſelf. He fainted in my arms. I recovered him to life, but not to his ſenſes; anger, rage, and revenge now took place. He drew his ſword, and ſhortening it made a ſtroke at me, which I avoided, and with the utmoſt pity took my leave, giving him over to time to bring his diſtempered mind to health and reaſon. But his frenzy did not leave him: he ſpoke aloud his complaints againſt me, as of a falſe friend, who had robbed him of his love. He more madly ſpoke of the late tranſaction of our impoſing on the deceaſed father, and I immediately had notice from my friends to prepare for my eſcape; for upon his imprudent diſcovery, the power of the convent would otherwiſe have taken hold of me inſtantly. My firſt thoughts of providing for myſelf were ſoon changed into a total care for my beauteous guardian, who was rather more guilty than myſelf, as the generous contriver of the plot. I haſtened to her, revealed our mutual danger with the freeneſs of an approved lover; for the danger put by all ceremony, and ſhe in like manner was ſurprized into the ſame behaviour. The alternative was to fly away together, or be doomed to all worldly adverſity, if we ſtaid. We engaged two particular friends of great conſequence in ſtrict fidelity to us: to them we conveyed our larger boxes of treaſure, and taking with

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us all our jewels and a large quantity of money, we left Lima in the night with a man and woman-ſervant, in a ſwift carriage. Our friends wiſely barricaded both our houſes, and deſerted them; by this means the ceremony of breaking open firſt the one and then the other (as the fraternity thought we muſt be concealed in one of them) took up moſt of the next day, and favoured our eſcape; for they came, as expected, and perceiving us gone, took poſſeſſion of both our houſes and all the rich furniture in them, in part of retaliation of the particular ſum bequeathed to them by the deceaſed, which particular alſo our frantic friend revealed, and hereby got pardon and abſolution for himſelf. But he did not enjoy life long: he was pitied by ſome, deſpiſed by others, hated by himſelf, and died in ſome months after. Much to be lamented it is, that when we neglect the watch over ourſelves, our paſſions often take ſuch ungovernable fire, and rage over the fair palace of reaſon!——In twenty four hours we were ſeveral leagues on our way to Panama, from whence, as our deſign was, we croſſed over to Porto-Bello, and there took ſhipping for Europe. We got ſafe to Spain. It would be indulging myſelf too unfairly in a partial entertainment, were I to tell the various ſcenes, through which we paſſed in our travels with the greateſt happineſs, as not one misfortune attended us in the whole. The pleaſant times of courtſhip, the alternate accounts of her contrivances in ſending, and of my ſurprized acceptances of her paſt favours, and our mutual endeavours to be agreeable to each other, added a peculiar pleaſure to ourſelves, amidſt the beautiful variety of ſcenes; for the ſtricteſt decorum of reſpect was on my ſide preſerved, and an uncenſurable conduct on her's. We did not think it ſafe to make any great ſtay in Old Spain, but went ſoon to France, and from thence to Holland. In ſhort, we were the happieſt pair, were bleſſed with lovely children, had ſeen many of the polite courts, ſettled our affairs at Lima by our intereſt in Spain, and at laſt returned thither with the principal command. I muſt juſt ſtop to tell

you, that the terms by which we made peace with the church, were by paying down the real ſum ſtipulated between my friend and wife's father for a reſtitution. I cannot but ſmile even now, when I reflect on the acting of that deceit. Little did I then think, that the mockery of our increaſing the dues of reſtitution, as a right of our profeſſion, which was then a matter of ſuch pleaſantry, ſhould be now in earneſt paid.

Here the gentleman made a full ſtop as at having concluded his ſtory: and had we imagined the remaining part to have been ſo tragical a ſcene, after ſo pleaſing a walk of entertaining life, our good nature would have checked our further enquiry, which our worſe bred curioſity was too forward in aſking.

My houſe, ſays he, *though ſtanding apart from the reſt of the city, was a large ſtructure in itſelf, ſufficient to effect its own ruin. At the time of the earthquake, which happened on a ſudden upon the cleareſt and moſt temperate day which the ſkies ever ſeemed to compoſe as a bleſſing to mankind, I was in a hall in the midſt of the town on a public occaſion. The univerſal crack burſt like a bolt of thunder on the ear of every ſenſe; its rolling noiſe, as it paſſed off, continued for ſome minutes of time. The earth ſhook, and kept its fit of trembling; houſes, churches, whole ſtreets of building ſunk or tumbled every way in ruins. Walls were ſeen to open and cloſe again as on joints; till at laſt the whole city became a mountain of rubbiſh; and devoured moſt of its inhabitants within its own bowels. The ſea joined in the common depredation. It ſwelled over the ſtreets and ruins; then, as ſtruck with the general terror, it run back with as ſtrong a reflux; then flowed again repeatedly, till it at laſt ſettled like a balance to itſelf. To deſcribe the various terrors of the people would be to paint ſo many various faces, but all held in this one opinion, that it was the laſt day of nature. Some run out on the ſtrand after the ſea, and were by its ſudden return again inſtantly overwhelmed; ſome made to the fields and country, but moſt of them were caught, or intercepted*

cepted in the ruins, tumbling on their heads. I was preſerved from the falling roof of the hall, by a kind of arched canopy over my head; I got clear of the ſurrounding heap as ſoon as poſſible, and ruſhing through all danger, and mounting over hills of ruins, I found my way unhurt to my own home; which afforded ſtill, if poſſible, a more heart-felt ſhock to that part of human nature which I ſhared. The whole was a ruined heap; my wife, children, and ſervants, all below the disfigured maſs. I had every aſſiſtance could be given, and we removed the rubbiſh with an expedition that ſcarce ſeemed tedious to my eager wiſhes. Out of five children, heaven ſaved me three, who are now alive; my wife was alſo taken up alive, but cruſhed and wounded beyond cure. Here you may judge a ſcene of tears; but amidſt this our ſorrow, her pious ſoul ſaw reaſon, for which to thank the heavenly director of all things that ſhe lived to behold me preſerved to defend in life our remaining children. Her death was at laſt ſome eaſe to my own heart; as it put a being out of pain, whoſe better place of exiſtence was to be in happineſs.

Some few days after his telling this ſtory, he expreſſing much curioſity about the manner of a ſea-fight, Mr. Walker ordered a general exerciſe of the great guns of our own and the other ſhips, that is, of running them out to take aim, and in again, as in an engagement, with firing of the ſmall arms, one ſhip againſt another. Theſe exerciſes we alſo practiced at other times, as they made the men more regular in their actions, when the engagement became real. The commodore in this manner gave him the repreſentation of a ſea-engagement, which was performed by all the ſhips with great alacrity, and ſhewed the grandeur of ſuch actions without the terror. At this and ſome other marks of reſpect, he expreſſed great acknowledgment of pleaſure and thanks; he afterwards went aſhore at Lagos-Bay, as before mentioned, in his way to High-mount, where he proved a faithful miniſter in obtaining the diſcharge of our men, in return to the civilities he had received.—As we

ſtood in for Lagos-Bay, with little wind, we ſaw three ſettees about three leagues to the weſtward, ſuppoſed to be Spaniards. We immediately hoiſted out our barge and yawl, and ſent them in purſuit of them; the Prince Frederick alſo ſent both her's, the commodore having given her the Princeſs Amelia's barge in the place of her own. In the evening, about eight o'clock, we ſaw our boats in the Offing return with two of the ſettees, being Spaniards; the other had run aſhore under the fort, which fired at our boats to prevent their purſuing. Upon our firſt obſerving our boats with their prizes, our ſhips came to an anchor; the Spaniards had made a ſtout reſiſtance, which deſerved compliment equally ſpeaks the attack as bold on our ſide. They had one man killed and ſeveral wounded; we had two lieutenants, a gunner, and ſix other men wounded, two of whom afterwards died. Our barge brought the two captains on board us: they were Catalonians, and the prizes were the St. Mazine and St. Chriſtopher from Barcelona, bound to Liſbon, with raiſins and ſilk handkerchiefs.

When we had juſt finiſhed our watering, October the ſixth, the laſt and moſt ſevere engagement happened, which for its various accidents and cataſtrophes has been equalled by few, but exceeded by none. Mr. Walker in the Boſcawen had before engaged and overcome ſix armed Martinico ſhips at one time, yet they were each inferior to him. Here he had a Coloſſus ſingly to encounter, whoſe ſmalleſt ball well placed was ſufficient to have ſent his floating caſtle of defence to the bottom of the ocean. But to our ſtory.

October the 6th, the King George and Prince Frederick having juſt compleated their watering, and coming out clear of the bay, about five o'clock in the morning, the Prince Frederick ſaw a large ſail under her lee-quarter ſtanding to the northward, towards Cape St. Vincent, the wind N. E. Upon which the commodore threw out the ſignal for chaſing: the Prince Frederick being further in the Offing, keeping to the ſouthward, whilſt the commodore endeavoured to get between the chaſe, and the land to cut her

off

off from thence; and ſeeing her a ſhip of force, diſpatched one of the ſettees, (whom he had immediately employed as tenders) to the Princeſs Amelia, which was the only ſhip that had not yet finiſhed her watering, and was ſtill at an anchor in the bay, with orders for captain Riddle to weigh his anchor inſtantly and follow him, which he did. The Duke and Prince George, which ſhips were the firſt that had compleated their watering, having been ordered to the eaſtward to cruiſe, were now in ſight; and perceiving the ſignal to chaſe, they continued the purſuit for about an hour, and then ſtrangely brought-to, contrary to the repeated ſignals thrown out by the commodore. The chaſe by this conduct in the purſuit, ſeeing herſelf likely to be hemned in by the two ſhips, the King George and Prince Frederick, was obliged to bear away, making all the ſail ſhe could to the weſtward; without doubt taking us for larger ſhips than we were, whilſt we took her for a leſs than ſhe really was. We continued in this purſuit for upwards of five hours, at which time ſhe ſhewed no colours. At laſt, about 12 o'clock, the King George came up with her: when all on a ſudden it fell a dead calm, in which we lay within gun-ſhot of each other: the Duke and Prince George were quite out of ſight, the Prince Frederick to the ſouthward alſo becalmed, and the Princeſs Amelia not yet come up. In this ſituation the chaſe all at once hoiſted colours and run out her lower tier; when we perceived her a ſeventy four gun ſhip: but there being little or no wind to ſpread her colours, we could not diſtinguiſh whether they were Spaniſh or Portugueſe. We lay in ſome ſuſpence what to make of her; taking her, if a Spaniard, to be one of the rich homeward bound ſhips expected with the year's money from the Weſt-Indies, of which the commodore had intelligence; but with this difference, that none of them were ſaid to exceed fifty-four guns. Whilſt we lay thus in view of each other, not yet confirmed in our opinions of her, nor as yet determined what ſtep to take, but waiting for ſome motion to be firſt made from her

ſide; in about an hour ſhe hauled in her lower tier, and ſhut her ports. The commodore at this opportunity conſulted with his officers what to do; they were all of opinion by this her behaviour that ſhe was a monied ſhip, and gave their vioces for engaging. About five o'clock in the evening a ſmall breeze ſpringing up from the northward, ſhe again directed her courſe to the eaſtward towards Cape St. Vincent; which confirmed the opinion of her being one of thoſe treaſure ſhips; and that ſhe wanted on that account to get under the protection of the port. The commodore, as we have ſaid, having ſounded the inclinations of his officers and men (who had ſufficient time to conſider the great odds againſt them, if they had been the leaſt afraid) and perceiving them till deſirous of engaging, gave orders to renew the chaſe. We got up along ſide to her with all expedition and alertneſs, expecting to be ſoon joined by the Prince Frederick, who was now ſome greater diſtance aſtern than before, occaſioned by our getting the wind before it reached her.

It was now eight o'clock, and a clear moon-ſhine evening. On coming up to the chaſe, we firſt hailed her in Portugueſe, but received no anſwer: we then ſpoke to her in Engliſh; when without anſwering our queſtion, ſhe likewiſe hailed us in Engliſh, and aſked the name of our ſhip; we replied the King George. Without further word or notice ſhe then inſtantly gave us the prepared fire of her whole broadſide, which diſmounted two of our guns, and brought down our main top-ſail yard; this ſmart ſalute, as we lay ready on our arms, was as ſuddenly returned. Thus the unequal conteſt began: the Spaniards repeated their firings with inceſſant warmth, but not with a continued execution; for tho' they fired as faſt as they could, yet their firings after the two firſt broadſides were extreamly irregular, only firing four or ſix guns at one time; owing, we may ſuppoſe, to the great weight of their guns, which made them leſs governable than ours were to us. And in this we had the advantage of them from our nearneſs; for as we con-

tinued

tinued to fire our broad ſides, ſo equally regular and well through out the whole engagement, that the laſt was near as good as the firſt, not a ſhot could poſſibly miſs them, and thereby alſo the fire of our ſmall arms took place; which like a ſtorm of fiery hail beat againſt the enemy with ſuch inceſſant force, that as we were afterwards informed, they fled from their quarters more than once. And here great remembrance muſt be paid to Mr. James Riddle our captain of marines, and brother to captain Riddle of the Princeſs Amelia. He commanded theſe firings ſo reſolutely, regularly, and quick, that the muſkets grew ſo hot in the hands of the men as to oblige them during the action to take three changes. Had we been at a greater diſtance, the Spaniard could have directed his guns with better aim at our rigging, and perhaps have ſooner diſabled us therein; but by moſtly pointing them at our hull with an intent to ſink us; as every gun was expected to do the office; many of the balls lodged between wind and water; for by the nearneſs there was not ſpace for them all to come to a riſe. Our men fought like lions; the proſpect of ſo great a prize before them, though a thought of too bold a daring, animated them up to feats of valour. Mr. Walker, who no doubt felt a pleaſing ſatisfaction in beholding ſuch bravery of his men, was ſtill looking out for the other ſhips to come up to his aſſiſtance; rather thinking, from the great odds of the enemy, that if he remained much longer unaſſiſted, he muſt fall a prey to them or the ſeas. He fought and commanded with a calmneſs almoſt peculiar to himſelf. Every man elſe in the ſhip appeared a creature actuated with a headſtrong ſpirit of bravery; which ſeemed to abſorb or collect in it all other thoughts. In ſhort, the whole ſhip was an engine from every part of her of miſſive fire; and yet among ourſelves we were in no confuſion, but all orders even in the greateſt heat of action were deliberately, tho' with expedition, obeyed; attentive to our duties, and not out-running our abilities in the execution.

During the whole time of the action, which in this manner lasted above three hours, yard arm to yard arm, the castle upon Cape St. Vincent fired very briskly, as a neutral power commanding peace; and we, being the nearest to it, received many of its shots. Thus we were almost the whole engagement between two fires; but it did us no great damage, on account of its distance. The nearer challenge to our best powers set the more remote danger almost out of the view of our attention; for by the closeness of the fight, our main-sail actually took fire from the lighted wadding of the enemy's guns. And here a proof may be shewn of Mr. Walker's ease and steadiness of temper in the heat of action and business. Having dispatched up a number of men to extinguish the blaze, another man officiously running up also, Mr. Walker called him back, and reprimanding him for going without orders, sent him to his place; saying, "He had ordered enough, as he thought, on the business, and when they did not do their duty, he would then send for him." Thus in all extremities the exactest discipline was preserved.

Though we had received many shots in our hull, yet from the great number fired, our rigging could not boast of any escape: for all our braces and main topsail yard were shot away, the fore-mast quite disabled, and the main-mast damaged. We could not work our ship, and bravery became now a virtue of necessity. Never sure was a contest more terrible, and, however fatal on one side (as we could never learn their exact numbers killed) yet conducted with so little loss on ours! for we had but one man killed and fifteen wounded, seven of whom afterwards died. This preservation was owing no doubt to the same method of elm-planking in the place of nettings, with which every ship was provided; as is described in the Boscawen.

At eleven o'clock, the enemy to our great surprize made sail, and left us the field of battle. It was an easy running away; for we were not able

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to follow. But I muſt here mention what is due to Mr. Dottin's merit of the Prince Frederick; that he endeavoured to get up to us during the engagement as faſt as he could; but there was ſo little wind, that it was half an hour after ten o'clock, or about half an hour before the enemy went off, when he came a-ſtern of us, upon the enemy's larboard quarter, and began firing with what guns he could bring to bear; which certainly drew ſome part of the enemy's attention towards him; for he had three of his men dangerouſly wounded, two of whom had both their legs ſhot away: but he was not at all diſabled in his rigging. However, the commodore did not give him any orders yet to chaſe, leſt we might ſpring a leak or other accident might happen to us in the night: but two ſail appearing to windward, and falſe fires being made, which were anſwered, we knew them to be part of our fleet, and grew happy in the thought that our friends were gathering round us. Early at the break of day Mr. Dotten came on board: as he came up the ſide, he aſked "whether the commodore was alive," and when he ſaw the ſhip full of men, and miſſed none of the officers or his friends, he ſtood in amazement for ſome time, before his ſurprize could let looſe his joy; he then ran into the commodore's arms. At ſix o'clock the Prince George came up, who had rowed all night to us by the report of the engagement: and told us that the Duke and the two ſettees were a-ſtern, all which ſhips, having firſt compleated their watering, had been ſent on their ſtation to the eaſtward. Pity it was, that we had not met this high antagoniſt, when we were all under way on our regular cruiſe. If ſo, we had certainly made a ſurer and ſafer conqueſt of her: but, as it before has been obſerved, when we firſt ſaw her, we had not all left our watering-place, and were not together in a readineſs for engaging. All our ſhips being now come together, except the Princeſs Amelia, who was even at an anchor when we firſt begun the chace, the commodore put the Duke and Prince George under the command of the

Prince

Prince Frederick, captain Dottin, and ſent them all three in purſuit of the enemy, keeping the two ſettees to attend upon us: whilſt we, having all the night made the beſt refit we could, though ſtill maimed and crippled, ſlowly followed after; hoping to come up at laſt to compleat the conqueſt we had ſo near won.

As on the one hand, the ſhips ſent after the chace retired from our view; on the other, a large ſhip came up towards us from the eaſtward. We were but in a ſad condition to make any reſiſtance, and were not a little alarmed at the fear (if an enemy) of being taken an eaſy prey, thus unprepared for a freſh ſhip: but thoſe fears ceaſed, as in her approaches to us, we diſcovered her to be an Engliſh man of war. The commodore, believing her to be the Jerſey, captain Hardy, who we before met, and being deſirous that no time ſhould be loſt in giving information of the chace in view, wrote a letter to him as the ſhip was coming up: acquainting him, "that the fleet to the weſtward were his ſhips in purſuit of a Spaniſh man of war, who had engaged him the night before, and whom he hoped would fall an eaſy conqueſt to a ſhip of his force." This letter he directed to captain Hardy, or to the commanding officer on board, and ſent it by one of the boats of the ſettees to meet him (our own boats being intirely ſhot into ſplinters) in order that he ſhould not be retarded in the purſuit. This proved to be the Ruſſel man of war, commanded by captain Buckle, who opened the letter, and as he would not wait writing, ſent his compliments back to Mt. Walker by word, "that he thanked him for the contents, and would obſerve them." He immediately crouded all his ſail and haſtened after them. The Princeſs Amelia next came in ſight, whom we knew by the ſignals ſhe firſt threw out upon ſeeing us. The commodore in like manner diſpatched her alſo after the chace, and now our whole fleet was in cloſe purſuit; and tho' we could not keep up with them, yet in our place was the Ruſſel, a ſhip of eighty guns.

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And now a new ſcene began: for we perceived the head-moſt ſhip engaged, which we took for the Prince Frederick, as ſhe led our other ſhips and was the beſt ſailor. Yet we counted one more than our number among the croud; but could not tell whence ſhe came. The commodore, as he ſtood obſerving them with his glaſs upon the deck, greatly blamed captain Dottin of the Prince Frederick for engaging before the other ſhips had cloſed alſo on the chace; for now perceiving the fire to grow very briſk, he ſaid aloud, *Dottin will fire away all his cartridges at too great a diſtance, and afterwards be obliged to load with looſe powder, by which ſome fatal accident may happen.* Scarce had he pronounced theſe words, when upon giving a broadſide ſhe appeared a pillar of ſmoke in the air. *She's gone, oh heavens!* cries the commodore, *Dottin and all his brave fellows are now no more.* Sir, ſays one of the officers, ſtanding by him, *'its only the ſmoke of her laſt broadſide. 'Tis a dreadful truth you tell,* replies the commodore: *for 'tis the laſt ſhe will ever give.* The ſmoke being ſoon diſpelled, no ſhip was to be ſeen; from which we too aſſuredly knew the truth. Of all the ſudden changes of fortune which ever lay in proſpect before a number of men, elate with purſuing victory, and confident of ſucceſs, ſure never did one appear more ſuddenly aſtoniſhing and affecting than this! grief took place, viſible in the pale countenance of each common man as well as officer: No diſtinguiſhing of ſorrow was to be made amongſt them. The commodore ſeeing his officers ſo ſunk in their ſpirits, and conſequently the men diſcouraged, ſtepped aſide off the quarter deck into the round houſe, whither his officers followed him. *Gentlemen*, ſays he, *if we have a tear to drop, let it be here. Yet whilſt it ſhews us men to pay this remembrance to our friends paſt out of life; 'tis the part of ſoldiers to bear up againſt the affliction, that like our other enemies, would overcome us. Eſpecially it is now neceſſary to do ſo, at leaſt in appearance before my men: as affairs may take a new turn with us; and as in caſe*

of meeting with a new enemy, this too much concern in you may beget a diffidence in them. At the moment he closed his words, a violent explosion broke aloud in our own ship, like a rattling or thrilling thunder. The commodore running out, doubly alarmed, as well as each of us, by the shock so sudden on the back of the other, saw all the decks deserted, the men scared, either clinging by the ropes at the outside of the ship, just ready to let themselves down into the sea, or running out on the bowsprit end, all expecting the moment of her blowing up. So easily may the minds of the bravest men be affected with a sudden surprize, when prepossessed by any previous fear! He quickly saw whence proceeded the noise and firing. Having, as we said, put ourselves in the night in the best order we could, one of the first businesses was to clean and load our arms in readiness for a new attack. The small arms, thus prepared, were laid upon the gratings on the quarter-deck, and covered with a crojack-sail, whilst the arm chests were set to air; and one of the men in some hurry of duty springing giddily over them, struck one of the cocks, which flashing made almost a total discharge of the whole, and set all the cartouch-boxes a-bursting and flying off. When the commodore ran out, several of the arms still kept firing on each side, and the crojack-sail soon blazed out and set fire to some part of the quarter-deck. Not a man was obedient to his call, or ventured giving any resistance, but said captain James Riddle, and our honest and brave chaplain, a very worthy gentleman; who with the commodore ventured themselves boldly, notwithstanding the frequent firings, in bringing water and extinguishing the flames. But chiefly to Mr. Riddle's great activity, boldness, and presence of mind in this extremity of things, it was owing, that a more fatal accident did not happen. No person was hurt but the man who had occasioned the accident, and who by as giddily jumping off at the ends, where the guns pointed both ways, was shot dead, and lay there by the side of

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the arms: but had not Providence, who in almoſt every act deſigns ſeveral ends, ſent the commodore and his officers off the deck in private condolence for the ſuppoſed loſs of their friends, and partners in the war, moſt if not all of them muſt have periſhed as they ſtood around the arms.

The unfortunate ſhip which was blown up was the Dartmouth man of war, captain James Hamilton, who being the night before ſeveral leagues to the weſtward, and hearing the report of the guns in the late engagement, made the beſt of his way to the point from which he heard the firing, and in plying up to windward fell in with our chaſe firſt, and engaged her before our ſhips came up, and being the headmoſt of the fleet was imagined by us to be the Prince Frederick. He engaged the enemy in a running fight very warmly for about an hour and half with his bow chaſe, which the Spaniard as briſkly returned with his ſtern, and had come almoſt to a cloſe engagement, when the Prince Frederick had now brought her bow chaſe to bear, and had alſo begun to engage; in the beginning of which cloſe engagement the Dartmouth blew up. Lucky it was for many of her people, that the Prince Frederick was ſo near, ſhe immediately got out her boats to their aſſiſtance, which the Duke did likewiſe, being alſo near enough to lend her aid. They took up about ſeventeen of them alive, among whom there was no one of any rank except Mr. Obrien, who was a young gentleman of Ireland, and then an acting lieutenant. He was taken up, recovered to his ſenſes, floating on the carriage of a gun, on which he had been blown out of the ſhip into the water. He was a young gentleman of great eaſe in behaviour, and of an happy readineſs of wit; which talents he has ſince improved to the gaining the eſteem, as he before engaged the favour, of mankind. His firſt ſalute to Mr. Dottin was, *Sir, you muſt excuſe the unfitneſs of my dreſs to come aboard a ſtrange ſhip; but really I left my own in ſuch a hurry, that I had no time to ſtay for a change.* This eaſy turn of thought amidſt the melancholy ſcene lightened the

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conſideration of the preſent diſtreſs, and made true the reflection, " that good humour is halfway to philoſophy " Of all the perſons ſaved, Mr. Obrien was the only one who could give any account of the affair; which was this. Being ſent on a meſſage from captain Hamilton to the officer who commanded below, as he was down between decks, he was met by the gunner who attended the magazine, ſtaring, wild and trembling: he aſked Mr. Obrien, where the captain was? " Where ſhould he be but upon deck, ſays Mr. Obrien, but what's the matter?" O, Sir, the magazine! At which word the exploſion happened, and he knew no more till he found himſelf floating on his new bark in the midſt of the ſea. His eſcape was the more extraordinary, as he was between decks when the exploſion happened; which one would imagine to be a certain place of death. But he was in all ſuppoſition blown out ſideways, in the ſame direction in which the carriage was ſent alſo, and ſo alighted on it as it buoyed up in the water; for he has often aſſured us that he did not get upon it by ſwimming or catching hold of it, as he found himſelf on it the moment he was ſenſible.

After taking up the men and getting in the boats, in which interim the chaſe had made all the ſail ſhe could to the weſtward, the Prince Frederick and Duke renewed their chaſe, and by this time were alſo happily joined by the Ruſſel. And now again another ſcene began in the purſuit and conqueſt of this bold though flying enemy; for never did Spanards, nor indeed men, fight a ſhip better than they did this. Our fleet purſued her all night, in which we loſt ſight of them; but conjectured the ſucceſs of the engagement from the report of the guns: for hearing them repeated about two o'clock in the morning, we ſuppoſed it renewed, and hearing no more of them after three, concluded the enemy had ſtruck. And our conjectures were very near the truth; for about that hour in the morning the three ſhips came within a gun-ſhot of the chaſe, when the Ruſſel began the engagement, which became very bloody. All the ſhips continued

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their firings with their utmoſt vigour and ſmartneſs, which were with great bravery returned by the Spaniard. The Ruſſel had ſixteen men killed and wounded, all her boats ſhot away, ſeveral ſhots between wind and water; yet ſhe did equal execution upon the enemy: at laſt a ſhot from her took away the Spaniard's main-top maſt; upon which he fired a ſingle gun and ſtruck. The prize was the Glorioſo man of war of ſeventy-four guns, ſeven hundred and fifty men, had been but ſeven days from the Groyne, and bound to Cadiz. The Ruſſel was of eighty guns, but had only three hundred and ſeventy men. The number of priſoners was ſo great, that captain Buckle had a deal to manage. He made uſe of the Prince Frederick's and Duke's barges in tranſporting the priſoners on board his own ſhip and them; and took ſixty of the Prince Frederick's men and forty of the Duke's on board the Ruſſel for her greater ſecurity. Notwithſtanding this, the men growing mutinous by their great numbers, he was obliged to hold a conſultation with the captains Dottin and Denham how to diſpoſe of them. At this time the Prince George coming up, it was inſtantly concluded, that ſhe ſhould take in as many as ſhe could, which were about two hundred; and that the Prince Frederick ſhould conduct them ſafe into Liſbon. The Prize was ſo ſhattered, that the three following days were employed chiefly in repairing her, before ſhe could make any great ſail; which when they had put ſomewhat to rights, the whole proceeded to Liſbon.—When we conſider the great bravery of this ſhip in the ſeveral ſevere engagements ſhe encountered of two men of war and three large privateers, we cannot but the more wonder at the firſt bold attack of our own ſhip the King George; who fought her ſo many hours in her full ſtrength and vigour, and at laſt obliged her to run.

In the morning of the engagement, we have ſaid, we loſt ſight of the whole fleet, except the Princeſs Amelia, who had been diſpatched much later than the reſt after the chaſe, and was to the weſtward of

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us, but who, alſo having loſt ſight of the other ſhips, again rejoined us. We then in conjunction with her and the two ſettees ſtretched away to the weſtward, the wind N. N. E. in expectation of falling in again with them: but ſeeing nothing of them, we gave over the ſearch, and again ſet about getting our own ſhip in as good plight as we could, to act upon the defenſive in caſe of meeting with an enemy (in which buſineſs we had been employed ever ſince the time of the action) for as to purſuing one, we were not yet in any condition.

October the ninth, about nine o'clock in the morning, we ſaw three ſail alſo to the weſtward, the one the moſt to leeward ſeemed to be a very large ſhip, from which circumſtance we concluded her to be the prize, with ſome of our ſhips; and accordingly bore down to them, but found the two moſt to windward large Dutch ſhips from Cadiz, bound to Amſterdam. They informed us, that the large ſhip at the leeward of them was a French man of war of ſixty guns, who had ſpoke with them the night before. This account threw our ſhip into ſome hurry of preparation; but whilſt others were giving orders for the neceſſary matters, the commodore ſet himſelf down calmly to write a letter home by them to the managers, with the circumſtances of our late engagement, our preſent ſituation, and the other matters as we then knew them, and kept the Dutch-men till he had finiſhed. When he had diſmiſſed them he then addreſſed us. *Gentlemen, I need not tell you that we are in a worſe condition to run than fight. I ſay not this as chuſing at this time to lead you on to an engagement; but that, if one be unavoidable, we had better begin with the enemy by day-light, than wait for their attacking us with greater advantage to themſelves by night; and if we made a ſhip of ſeventy-four guns run away by night, why not one of ſixty by day? 'Tis therefore my opinion we ſhould bear down upon the ſhip in view, as the moſt probable means of avoiding the greater diſadvantages of an engagement with her.* The men giving three cheers of reſolution to do as he directed,

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we immediately bore down on the ſuppoſed enemy, not being in a capacity to act leſs courageouſly. But very agreeably to ourſelves, as we drew near her, we perceived her by the cut of her ſails and rigging to be an Engliſh ſhip, and ſo brought-to along-ſide of her. She was the Bedford man of war, commodore now admiral Townſhend, whoſe goodneſs and civility, if I may be allowed the phraſe at ſea, were very neighbourly; for being informed of the ſevere engagement we had been in, he offered us any of his majeſty's ſtores, that we might have occaſion for, and all other aſſiſtance in his power: but we being in no want of any thing of the kind, having refitted as well as the ſituation of affairs would allow, acknowledged his civility in our beſt return of thanks. He then parted with us, and ſtood to the N. W.

The four following days, ſtill in ſearch of our fleet, we ſaw ſeveral diſtant ſail, alone and in company, which we chaſed in hopes of meeting with, or hearing ſome intelligence of our fleet: but all proving Dutchmen, Swedes, or Engliſh, we neither ſaw nor heard any thing of our ſhips, till the fourteenth, being then in ſight of land about ſix or ſeven leagues from the rock of Liſbon; when about ſeven in the evening, we fell in with the Duke, and ſoon after ſaw the fleet to windward. Captain Denham informed us that the fleet in view were our ſhips, the Ruſſel, and their prize the Glorioſo, a Spaniſh man of war; which ſhip we had received accounts of, ſome months before, as computed to have in value above three millions ſterling: he alſo gave us an account of the accident of the Dartmouth, and of the ſafety of the Prince Frederick. This news could not fail of elevating our men to an high pitch of tranſport, at the ſuppoſition of our being in poſſeſſion of ſo large a ſhare of fortune. But the account of the ſafety of our friends was a degree of joy, if poſſible, above tranſport. Upon this news the commodore, who endeavoured to give all the pleaſure in his power, as well as ſatisfaction to his owners, diſpatched one of the

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ſettees for England to brighten the cloudy accounts ſent in his letter through the channel of the Dutchman.

The next day we had the pleaſure of ſeeing the prize and Prince Frederick. And here I muſt in juſtice to the good hearts of the men, ſo ſoon repeat the remark, that in ſeeing the laſt, they gave greater expreſſions of joy both in voice and geſture, than in their ſalutings of the prize, though imagined to be full of money. The commodore and captain Riddle immediately went aboard the Ruſſel. Captain Buckle received them on the quarter-deck, where were alſo the Spaniſh captain and ſome of his officers. Captain Buckle introduced Mr. Walker to the Spaniſh commander, who turned aſide to ſhed a moment's tears, and then addreſſed him with great tenderneſs, "By you, ſays he, I have loſt a darling ſon, but 'twas the fortune of the war, no fault of yours. Yet, though your honours be my misfortunes, I wiſh they had found ſome better reward than the bare glory only of reducing ſo great a ſhip: for ſhe carries nothing but great guns, having landed all our treaſure at the Groyne, before ſhe met you." This certainly was meant a compliment; but never was a more blank one paid before, as in the account of there being no treaſure on board. But Mr. Walker, recovering himſelf from his ſurprize, told him "It was yet a ſatisfaction to him to ſee that ſo brave a man as he had eſcaped the danger; and that though it was his misfortune to be overcome, yet it could never be thought a diſcredit to him to have ſtruck to his majeſty's ſhip the Ruſſel."

As Mr. Walker at firſt intended to ſend both the ſettees to England, he that evening diſpatched the other alſo home with the preſent news, leſt the managers ſhould vainly imagine themſelves richer than they were, or indeed needed to be. However, ſhe was ſo fine and compleat a ſhip, that his Portugueſe majeſty afterwards offered for her thirty thouſand moidores, wanting her at the time of the Goa expedition againſt the rebellion and maſſacre that happened there.

Next

Next morning the commodore ſent for Mr. Obrien from on board the Prince Frederick, as he was much burnt, to have him under his own ſurgeon, the gentleman we have ſo often mentioned. Under his care Mr. Obrien ſoon recovered, and by his agreeable deportment and much good humour, made our whole company happy as himſelf. I ſay himſelf, for the commodore, at Liſbon, when aſhore, leaving him maſter of the cabin, when he was ſent to, and invited to continue aboard a king's ſhip, then in the harbour, he begged "he might be allowed to ſtay where he was; unleſs they would make him a captain at once, as he was ſpoiled for any thing elſe." This gentleman, in whoſe preſervation providence ſo remarkably interpoſed, a circumſtance never to be forgotten to his family, is the preſent heir to the title and eſtate of earl of Inchiquin in Ireland.

As we were the only ſhip hurt of our fleet, the commodore thought it neceſſary that the reſt ſhould proceed on their ſtation for the remainder of the cruiſe; eſpecially as our great expectations of a fortune were now again vaniſhed. Wherefore he gave them all the neceſſaries which they wanted out of his own ſhip, and alſo an additional number to each of them, as was thought proper; and they accordingly left us the ſeventeenth, having put all the priſoners on board other ſhips, which they met with, going into Liſbon; whither we alſo bore away to refit, and came over the bar to an anchor that evening.

Early the next morning a boat belonging to the Prince George, which had been before ſent in with two hundred priſoners, came along-ſide of us; and, to the great ſurprize of Mr. Walker, brought in her one of the managers from England, who gave Mr. Walker a very uncouth welcome into Liſbon, for venturing, as he termed it, their ſhips againſt men of war. "Had the treaſure, Sir, ſays Mr. Walker, been a-board, as I expected, your compliment had been otherways; or had we let her eſcape from us with that treaſure on board, what had you then have ſaid?" But if I do not take care to ſtop myſelf in time,

time, I ſhall run into a buſineſs which is reſerved for another diſcuſſion. We ſhall therefore return to ſay, that the Glorioſo prize came alſo with us the ſame day to an anchor, and the Ruſſel man of war, all almoſt a-breaſt of each other.——Yet I cannot help mentioning one diſpute, among ſome others, which is material here; as it rather relates to Mr. Walker's conduct than to any error of accounts. The ranſom for the Buen Conſejo, having been fixed and agreed on between all the parties, the managers had, without aſking Mr. Walker's conſent, articled that he ſhould convoy her ſafe as far as the Canary Iſlands. This, when he was informed of it, he abſolutely refuſed to execute; as an unwarrantable act, by protecting his majeſty's enemies. The matter was carried to a great heighth between the manager and him, and at laſt brought before Sir Benjamin Keene; who gave his ſentiments entirely on Mr. Walker's ſide; and whilſt he with great ſpirit, reprimanded the one, he with equal juſtice complimented the other: ſo the contract became void. This was mighty cauſe of diſpleaſure againſt Mr. Walker.

As ſoon as we got into port, we ſet about refitting, which took us up near ten weeks. We had received vaſt numbers of ſhot in our hull below water; moſt of which had only lodged in her, and not gone through; which could not be owing to the weakneſs of the enemy's powder; (for wherever a ſhot touched us above water, it did its due execution) but to the nearneſs of the reſiſting medium of the water through which they were to paſs, which deadened their force. At this time the prince, now the preſent king of Portugal, came in a barge on purpoſe to ſee the damages we had ſuſtained, and rowed round us and the Glorioſo. We gave him a royal ſalute as he went from us, and received the compliment of his hat.

We will now attend to our three ſhips at ſea, the Prince Frederick, Duke, and Princeſs Amelia, under the command of captain Dottin, of the Prince Frederick; who all behaved with great conduct, harmony, and ſome good fortune. For, in the firſt place,

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on October the twenty-first, as they lay off Faro, the Prince Frederick's boat, which was ſeparated from us by night in the ſtorm, came aboard with the lieutenant, captain of marines, and all the men ſafe and in health. Having received the commodore's letters of credit, as before-mentioned, they had regained their liberty by cartel at High-Mount from the Spaniards, and had come to Faro but three days before the arrival of our ſhips on that coaſt. And, November the ſecond, ſeeing a ſail, the three ſhips gave chaſe, and riſing her very faſt, they ſoon came ſo near her as to fire at her: notwithſtanding which, ſhe ſtill kept her wind; but they continuing their fire pretty briſkly, ſhe at laſt bore down to them, and the Prince Frederick brought her to. She was a Dutch ſhip, in the ſervice of the Spaniards, the Agatha galley of ſixteen guns, from La Vera Cruz, having on board ſeventeen cheſts of money regiſtered on Spaniſh account, one box of wrought plate, cochineal, and indigo to a great value, in the whole amount, upwards of twenty thouſand pounds. The captains Dottin and Riddle agreed to put the money on board the Duke, and to ſend the prize under her convoy into Liſbon to the commodore there, whilſt they continued their cruize. In hoiſting the cheſts of money over the ſide, one cheſt by accident fell over-board; but the Duke and prize arrived ſafe at Liſbon, to the great pleaſure of the commodore, and ſatisfaction of the manager, who immediately took poſſeſſion of the money, and ſent it to England in the Bedford man of war.

The two other captains continued their cruiſe with great judgment and harmony, meeting every day a chace of ſome kind or other, but with no further ſucceſs: till at laſt the time of their cruiſe expiring, and their water and proviſions growing ſhort, having put the men to an allowance of both, for ſome days before, they on the twenty-ninth of November came over the bar of Liſbon, and ſaluting the commodore brought up to an anchor by his ſide. The commodore that evening went on board each of them; and, on hearing the circumſtances of the cruiſe, could not be

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inſenſible of ſome vanity at the good behaviour and ſeamanſhip of two ſo young officers, brought up under his early leſſons.

This paternal pride was alſo, at this time, not a little increaſed by his meeting with captain Brooks, his former lieutenant in the Mars and Boſcawen, who had been ſent for to Hamburgh by his friends, and was now commodore of two large Hamburgh men of war, on a cruiſe againſt the Turks. A whimſical aukwardneſs appeared here in his behaviour, as he did not know how to take place of his former maſter, or rather ſea-parent; and yet thought that, in reſpect to his country's flag, he ought to aſſume the precedency over him, as a commander only of private ſhips of war. But Mr. Walker, with great good humour convinced him, that the command of private ſhips was given by the ſame authority as that of king's ſhips; and that all Engliſh ſhips of war muſt take place of every other nation whatever.

Mr. Walker at this time received a compliment of an extraordinary kind, for the explanation of which he was obliged to have recourſe to his friends, and which we mention for no other purpoſe but for its oddity. The Spaniſh captain of the Glorioſo being now about to return over land to Spain, wrote to him his compliments of taking leave, deſiring him to ſend him ſix of his fire arms and bayonets. Mr. Walker, before he gave any anſwer, told the affair to the agents meſſieurs Mawman and Macey; where was a gentleman lately from Spain, who informed them, that the demand was intended as the higheſt mark of reſpect which could be ſhewn; meaning, "That as in battle he himſelf had proved the merit of thoſe arms, ſo he deſired to continue under their guard, in his preſent journey." As it was found to be meer matter of form, the Spaniſh arms being doubtleſs preferable to our own, the number were ſent him.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

The missing of the Havannah fleet; the great trouble of getting their provisions at Faro; meeting two Algerine ships; the story of Mahomet and his son; the King George returns to Lisbon; the other ships end their cruise, and sail for England.

THE Havannah fleet being about this time expected home, the commodore made all preparations for the Sea with the greatest haste. Accordingly, on the first day of the year 1747, he made the signal to unmoor, and we set out on the remaining half, or last four months of our cruise.

I must just mention one unhappy step taken in the management of our provisions, which I should not do, did it not concern the relation in which we are engaged. Before we came this last time into Lisbon, the remaining part of the provisions (which as we have beforementioned, had been sent from England) were ordered by the presiding managers round to Faro, there to be taken in by us, tho' our agents knew that at the end of the first four months cruise we were to have put into Lisbon for them. This was done without assigning any reason for it, and without having an opportunity of giving us any intelligence thereof; and besides the risque in carrying the provisions thither, and loss of time in going for them, it was also an additional expence: for we were now obliged to buy at least a month's extraordinary provisions, as we could not have gone to the destined port with a less quantity. For, being obliged to set forward immediately to Faro, and there detained by various accidents in taking them in, the first sail we met, after coming from thence, was a Dutch galliot, which informed us, "that the Havannah fleet was a few days before arrived safe at Cadiz, and had been separated from their convoy in a gale of wind; which were only two men of war, one of sixty four guns and the other seventy-four, both so very sickly, that even they

had in all probability ſubmitted not only to have let ſome of their fleet been picked up by us, but alſo themſelves worſted in an engagement. Thus, by this one ill-fated accident alone, we eſcaped the very fleet, which our hopes were ſet on meeting.

In getting round to Faro, we brought to a Swede on the nineteenth, the Anna Creſtina, Andrea Aſpitand, maſter; who told us he had been, ſome days before, robbed by an Engliſh privateer; which action, like moſt other bad ones, is not only anſwerable for its preſent evil, but involves in its own deſerved cenſure the characters of others, even here of a whole nation. Wherefore, if people would always take a view of the conſequences, which may attend the action they are going to commit, the foreſight, that would ariſe more or leſs in all, would certainly often ſtop the actor from the commiſſion. Mr. Walker, to wipe off the national ſcandal, as much as in him lay, ſupplied the captain to the beſt of his power with ſome neceſſaries: as we were now near our own proviſions; and ſhewed him other civilities to counterbalance, in his mind, the bad opinion he had entertained of our countrymen. Captain Riddle alſo chaced another ſhip of the ſame country, the Stad Wiſmar, Joachim Hacker, maſter, which had been plundered in like manner, and from the like deſcription given, in all probability by the ſame ſhip. Capt. Riddle, in example of the commodore, treated their diſtreſs with the ſame good-natured policy.

Before we reached Faro, our ſhip, the King George, ſprung her bow-ſprit: for repairs are ſeldom to be depended on in foreign ports—and the commodore knowing that he could not get in there, it being a bar harbour, anchored, on the twenty third, in Lagos-bay to repair, and diſpatched the Princeſs Amelia, with our new ſchooner (which we alſo called the Prince Edward tender, in the place of the one which was loſt) to bring off the proviſions to the reſt of the ſhips. On the twenty-fifth, the King George having repaired, weighed anchor again, and we ſtood off to Faro; when the Princeſs Amelia and the tender coming

ing in ſight, a ſtorm aroſe, and forced back the Prince Edward from the other. This inclemency of the weather continued at this time ſo perverſe to our endeavours of expedition, that our ſhips could not keep on the coaſt, to receive the proviſions from our tenders, above one day in eight. We had here, among the reſt, a tempeſt of a very extraordinary nature, with rain, ſuch as the like was never known, and ſome flaſhes of lightning and loud claps of thunder. The rain fell like a cataract of water, that there was ſcarce any ſtanding the decks, whilſt ſuch a darkneſs hung around, that the clouds ſeemed to meet the ſea, and we appeared in the regions of water. This laſted not long; for the darkneſs broke as it were in twain over our heads, and the rain abated, when the clouds fell away on all ſides; in the place of this heavy rain, ſudden guſts of wind aroſe, and a great ſwell came on, but none of our ſhips received any damage. I muſt alſo take notice, that whilſt we lay here off Faro, a packet came to the commodore from Liſbon, and another to Mr. Denham of the Duke; which produced a tranſaction, which we ſhall mention in its place.

When we, with much difficulty and great loſs of time, had got our proviſions on board, we haſtened to our ſtation; where, after chaſing numbers of Engliſh, Dutch, Portugueſe, and Swediſh ſhips, on the ſecond of March, we fell in with a large ſail; which proved to be an Algerine man of war of forty guns, five hundred and fifty men, cruiſing againſt the Spaniards and Portugueſe. They had been out thirty-ſix days, without the leaſt ſucceſs. Their Lieutenant came on board us, of whom the commodore enquired, whether they had any Britiſh ſubjects on board; and found that they had four from Ireland. The commodore detained the lieutenant and boat, and ſent aboard the Algerine, inſiſting upon the men being delivered up, as ſubjects belonging to his Britannic majeſty, with whom the Algerines were always in good peace. The Algerine captain ſaw himſelf obliged to conſent; but the commodore upon

further examination finding, that the men ſpoken of were renegadoes, who had formerly been in the Spaniſh ſervice, and had voluntarily run over from them to the Moors, and having taken on them the Mahometan religion, were themſelves deſirous of remaining with them, he left them to their liking, judging them beſt where they were; as remembering the trueſt and ſhorteſt character ever given of the people of that nation (which I think is in Mr. Gordon's Geographical Grammar) that *when good, none better; when bad, none worſe.* So he diſmiſſed the Algerine officer.

We muſt here go back to a very remarkable cataſtrophe, which happened immediately after our late engagement with the Glorioſo; but as it intervened in the middle of a principal action, we poſtponed it to this place, where it joins itſelf more regularly to its further ſtory and concluſion.

About the time the ſhips were manning at Liſbon, an Algerine Turk came on board, to enter himſelf as a common man. He had been a ſlave in Spain; and having made his eſcape from thence, contrived this ſtratagem to get out of the country: the commodore gave leave for his being admitted. Much about the ſame time, another Turk, in the like circumſtances, entered himſelf on board the Duke; in which ſhips they ſeverally lay concealed, never going aſhore from the time of their entering on board. The one on board us was an elderly man, of a good form and preſence, and was remarkably ſtudious in doing all handy ſervices for the officers; whoſe ſervants very willingly let him do them, as ſparing their own trouble. Mr. Walker afterwards, when we were at ſea, on ſome occaſion taken notice of the man, thought he obſerved ſomething in his addreſs and manner more than what commonly belonged to people of low degree. He ſent for him to his cabin, and aſking him ſome queſtions, was anſwered by him very modeſtly, and with a great air of politeneſs and genteel ſenſe of the obligation done him; in being thus taken notice of; but he would repeat no part of his

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hiſtory more than that of his having been a ſlave to the Spaniards. Mr. Walker however ordered, that he ſhould dine at the ſteward's table, and that he ſhould not be continued in offices of ſervitude, which he imagined him above; and knowing, that there was another Turk on board the Duke, he ſent for him to be with him in our ſhip; as he thought, that the company of a countryman might be an amuſement and ſatisfaction to him on board.

When they were introduced, at the ſurprize of their firſt ſeeing each other, every paſſion of affection and of joy ſtarted in their countenances; every action which enſued was expreſſive of the heart-felt happineſs. They locked themſelves in a ſtrict embrace, and overflowing tears and eyes, uplifted in return of gratitude to heaven, were ſure enſigns to us of their ſincerity and near alliance. The one found a ſon, and the other his father. To give the ſeparate accounts of each of their eſcapes from Spain would be to enter on a kind of romance; and as to any part of their ſtories, before the time of their becoming priſoners to the Spaniards, we could learn nothing diſtinctly from them; for they both were modeſt and reſerved.

This ſcene was a great pleaſure to moſt of us, and could not fail of recommending them to our regard and civility. They lived in great love and friendſhip with each other, till the day of our engagement with the Glorioſo: for here they diſcovered no alliance as before; the father throughout the whole engagement behaving with the greateſt boldneſs and courage, as not to be outdone in either by any other perſon in the ſhip; and the ſon being the only man who ſhewed any tokens of fear, he having abſented himſelf, and run, ſtruck with terror, into the cock-pit for ſafety.

The next morning after the engagement, the old father came into the cabin to the commodore, and throwing himſelf at his feet, with much weeping, demanded from him, that vengeance ſhould be executed on his ſon, or that he himſelf might have liberty to put him to death. Mr. Walker told him "that the

chriſtian religion and the laws forbid him to take that power into his own hands; and that though the law of arms might, upon regular proof and deliberate judgment, exerciſe that authority; yet, as his ſon was of a ſtrange nation, and not bound to fight for our country as the natives of it, humanity and mercy interpoſed, and ſtopped ſuch a ſtrict execution of the law." At this the old man ſeemed much to regret the tender pity of the commodore, which kept alive his ſhame; he retired diſſatisfied, and would never ſpeak to his ſon, or allow him to come into his preſence, till the very laſt day of their departure from the ſhip.

Some hours after we had diſmiſſed the Algerine, Mahomet (for ſuch was the father's name) again took an opportunity of throwing himſelf at the commodore's feet, and told him, "he wiſhed that the Britiſh ſubjects had been brought aboard; for then, ſays he, in return of four men, I could have had the aſſurance to have aſked you for my liberty." This greatly affected the commodore, as he would very gladly have granted it to him; but in the ſtricter attention to the other buſineſs, he had never once thought of him. However, he promiſed him, that he would take care to ſend him and his ſon to England, and from thence at his own expence, have them carried to their own country. "Oh, ſir, (replies Mahomet) the cup of your goodneſs will be mixed with too much bitterneſs, if he be permitted to accompany me. Let him range the earth in exile from that country which muſt be diſhonoured by his firſt foot-ſtep on its ſands." Mr. Walker here had time of talking to him, how much nobler the virtues riſe which conſtitute forgiveneſs, than they which ſatisfy revenge. "Yes, (ſays the Turk) our religion teaches forgiveneſs of an injury done to ourſelves; but an injury done to our country, whereby the criminal diſhonours the race of the prophet, ought not to be allowed to plead for any private pity, but ſuffer the laws of public condemnation: elſe the exalted ſons of Mahomet may fall into a degeneracy of blood, and

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loſe their rank on earth." The commodore ſtill preſſed the argument, "that this accuſation did not hold againſt the young man, as he was not fighting for his country; and that though the Engliſh were his friends, yet they were a different people and chriſtians." "But (replies the father) he fought againſt his enemies, and againſt the common enemy of mankind, ſlavery; and he who fights againſt this fights for his country." Mr. Walker here gave up the argument; but ordered in the young man, and endeavoured to introduce him to his father for a reconciliation. The old one turned from him and wept. "At laſt, ſays he, addreſſing only the commodore, I have promiſed you, not to kill him in your ſhip, and he ſhall live whilſt he is your's." But to ſome of us who interfered in preſſing the reconciliation, and ſpoke largely of chriſtian forgiveneſs, he ſaid, "You may make a chriſtian, if you pleaſe, of my ſon. Try him, he'll become one." We could not help laughing at the bad compliment he paid us at the concluſion; though his meaning was certainly no other, than that a bad man in any one circumſtance of acting, is to be ſuppoſed the moſt capable of doing other acts of meanneſs, as moſt apoſtacies in general are.

Four days after this, we met with another large ſhip; which, when we came up with her, proved an Algerine admiral of fifty guns. Here a new and unexpected opportunity again offered for Mahomet's releaſe. Upon coming ſo near to the ſhip as to diſcover of a certainty what ſhe was, and before we ſpoke to her, the commodore again called Mahomet and his ſon to him, and told the father, "that if he promiſed to forgive his ſon, he would now put them both aboard a ſhip of their own country: but if he continued to refuſe ſuch promiſe, he would put the ſon only aboard, or diſcover to the reſt of his countrymen the whole affair, and the nature of his fault, thereby to take the power of puniſhment out of his hands." This ſeemed to ſting the old man deeper than any thing preceding. The ſenſe of his family-

ſhame being divulged brought bluſhes in his face, one ſucceeding another in a quick tranſition to red from paleneſs. He then promiſed, in his cuſtomary ſolemnity, " that provided the affair was kept ſecret from his countrymen, he would forgive him, and pray to his prophet to ſhed a better influence on him for the future." They then embraced, the young man all along behaving with great concern and modeſty, no other ways pretending to an excuſe, than that the fight was a new manner to him. The old father then prayed for the commodore, and all who depended on him, and promiſed, " that if ever he met him in his country, he would tell the heavens his obligation."

After a ſtrict enquiry was made in the other ſhip, whether there were any Britiſh ſubjects on board, and none any ways diſcovered, the commodore ſent Mahomet and his ſon aboard. When the officer returned, who attended them, he told us, " that the moment the old man went aboard, he was known by the admiral, who took him in his arms, and paid him great ſigns of compliment," by which we judged, that he had been a perſon of greater rank and diſtinction than his modeſty or prudence thought fit to diſcover to us. The Algerine admiral gave us the higheſt ſalute of his guns, which we returned, and ſo parted.

On the firſt of February, we loſt ſight of the Duke, and made ſeveral falſe fires all night, none of which or any other of our ſignals were anſwered, on that or the ſucceeding days: but on the eighth, we met a Dutch ſhip which came from Liſbon, and informed us that the Duke was got in there, before he ſailed. This account made us eaſy in regard to the ſafety of the ſhip; but for the reaſon of his going from us, we were ſtill in the dark.

Though in this laſt part of our cruiſe we met not with the ſucceſs we had been accuſtomed to hope for, yet we had no cauſe to lament our particular ill luck in competition with the better fortune of others; for of ſeveral king's ſhips and letters of marque, which

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we chaſed and came up with, not one as we could learn had within this time met with any prize. The Havannah fleet was all we could have expected; and that we miſſed by our being detained on account of the proviſions ſent to Faro, as beforementioned.

The time now came, when the cruiſes of the other ſhips were expired, but not of the King George; for, as we had been ten weeks in harbour on account of our late repairing, that time could not be reckoned as part of the eight months, which were to be run out at ſea. Wherefore the commodore reſolved to ſend the other ſhips home; and though determined himſelf to ſpin out the remainder of his cruiſe to the laſt, yet for the preſent he was not able to keep the ſeas. His bowſprit, which was repaired at Lagos-bay, was again ſprung, and we wanted an entire new main-maſt; ſo that the ſhip was in great diſtreſs: wherefore, he found himſelf obliged to make once more for Liſbon to repair, contrary to his own inclinations, and the poſitive directions of the letter ſent to him at Faro; which expreſsly forbid him on any account whatever to put in there any more; the wind and weather not permitting him to make for any other port. As we were in ſuch diſtreſs, he made the other ſhips attend him to within four leagues of the rock of Liſbon, and then proceed on their way home to England.

The day before they parted us, the commodore went on board each ſhip, and returned thanks to the officers and men for their good behaviour in general. The return on the other ſide in their compliments of taking leave, had a natural ſincerity in it above the common tokens of civility; which I ſhall not attempt to deſcribe. March the 25th the ſhips ſaluted us, and ſet ſail for England. We went into Liſbon.

In their way home, the Prince Frederick on the 27th fell in with his majeſty's ſhips the Eagle, captain (now admiral) Rodney, and the Windſor, captain Bateman; who had been chaſed two days before by ſix large ſail of Spaniſh men of war. Thus, if we did not ſucceed to our wiſhes in our late cruiſe,

we were ſtill fortunate beyond our knowledge, in eſcaping ſo near a danger. And the Princeſs Amelia took a Dutchman, which ſhe had reaſons to believe a prize, and therefore brought her into England. But ſhe was afterwards on a trial at law, ſet at large at her own coſts. The two ſhips reached England about the tenth of April, 1748. The Prince George had been before ſent home with our prize, the Nympha.

CHAP. IX.

Some miſmanagement of affairs relating to the fleet. The former agents ſeize the ſhip King George. Moſt of the men go into foreign ſervices. Some reflections thereon. An offer of a command from the court of Portugal to Mr. Walker. Mr. Walker's return to England in the Liſbon packet, and his preſerving the ſame.

WHEN the commodore got to Liſbon, he found there ſome alterations. Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey having drawn on the managers for the money advanced by them, their bills had been proteſted at London to a very conſiderable amount, occaſioned by ſome diſpute ariſing between the managers at home and them; and the manager whom we had left at Liſbon was gone to England in the Duke, captain Denham, he having ordered him to wait for him for that purpoſe at a certain ſtation, by his letters ſent to him at Faro, as we have beforementioned; the late agents had arreſted or attached the Buen Conſeijo in the port of Liſbon, in a part of payment of themſelves, as the only remedy in their power. To fruſtrate any like deſigns in them in regard to the reſt of the fleet was the reaſon of the ſaid then reſiding manager ſending the letter to the commodore at Faro, forbidding him to return to Liſbon on any account whatever: thus we ſee alſo, that ſending round the proviſions to Faro was not the act only of giddy play or want of ſkill. A new agent, one

Mr.

Mr. Atley, had been appointed ready to ſucceed into the place of the former, and every thing relating to our affairs was in confuſion. But the commodore, willing to keep matters together as well as he could, as alſo to perform the remainder of his cruiſe, conſulted with his new agent, Mr. Atley, who took advice of his lawyer, whether, if he refitted his ſhip, it could be ſeized on the ſame account by the ſaid agents; and being informed that he could not, for that no ſtep whatever could be taken thereto, without previous notice to the party, ſufficient to conteſt ſuch claim, Mr. Atley advanced money on account of the managers, and compleated her for the ſea. Theſe repairs took about eight weeks, when the former agents, who had all this while judiciouſly lain quiet, ſeized alſo the King George by a ſtratagem of giving notice of the ſeizure to the commodore, in a paper thruſt into his hand as a petition (when he was in a hurry of buſineſs) and made an abſolute ſale of her, by the form of public notice being read in the open ſtreets, as the law for the ſake of ſecurity directs: but which good intent is too often, as well as the preſent caſe, ſubverted in the practice, by reading the notice at ſecret opportunity, before two or three witneſſes brought with them on purpoſe as evidences thereof. By this ſtroke the commodore found his ſhip all at once ſlipt away from under him, the cruiſe fruſtrated, and all his men adrift in a foreign country, without money, no care had, or proviſion made for them, open mouthed in their abuſes againſt the managers, and many of them ſcarcely civil in their demands againſt him, as ſome of them now began to include him in the phraſe of, *All rogues alike*.

If malicious report has laid the blame on Mr. Walker of this ſhip being ſeized and arreſted from the managers, the truth of the fact here told I hope ſhews him intirely free of the charge; as it was not only his intent to have ſecured her to his managers, (whoſe friend ſincerely he was) but had been more for his fame to have returned home ſucceſsful in

his

his own ſhip. If Meſſrs. Mawman and Macey were to blame, it was not Mr. Walker's place to have commenced or taken on him any quarrel with them, who could even have arreſted him for the whole debt; and which nothing hindered them from doing, but their particular regard for him. Mr. Walker applied to Mr. Atley chiefly in behalf of the men, for money to carry them and himſelf home; but he now refuſed to advance any more, and of his own accord ſummoned the gentlemen of the factory together to raiſe a ſubſcription for ſending home their diſtreſſed countrymen. Mr. Walker could not but reſent this proceeding as an affront on the managers, and attended the meeting; when the gentlemen wiſely diſtinguiſhed that the preſent ſubjects of their conſideration were all men of acquired fortune, and could not juſtly be ſet in the light of wanting charity. Mr. Atley alſo could not but underſtand ſome obſervations made by the company on the preſent propoſal as a rebuke to his conduct, but endeavoured to excuſe himſelf by ſtill an higher affront on the managers, " that he was afraid to advance any more money to them, leſt he ſhould be ſerved as the late agents were." Here Mr. Walker, who was ſtill an advocate for his managers, could not help reprimanding him for his preſumption, " as he ſaid, he could ſpeak from nothing elſe, he not having experienced any ill from them." When a gentleman of the factory then there, Mr. Horne, generouſly ſtood up and made an offer to Mr Walker of any money, which he might have occaſion for his own credit, which friendſhip he to this day continues, Mr. Walker made uſe of his beneficence, and took up ſeveral ſums, which he diſtributed among ſome of the officers and men who were willing of returning home, to pay their paſſages to England, taken their receipts for the ſame. All which money Mr. Walker has ſince anſwered on his own account, and the men's receipts are part of his preſent diſputed accounts with the managers. But notwithſtanding his utmoſt endeavours and perſwaſion (as he now

had

had no other power) many of them went in foreign ſervices, diſguſted at their own. Several ſtaid in Portugal, but moſt went to Spain; ſome of whom ſet up a woollen manufactory there, to which buſineſs they had been bred; and others went into the King's yards, to work at building and rigging ſhips. And one man in particular, as Mr. Walker has been credibly informed, had an high ſalary fixt on him for life, for his peculiar knowledge in this art and buſineſs.

It is very lamentable to ſee ſuch numbers of our handicraft men employed in foreign ſtates, eſpecially that of Spain; to which I have been an eye-witneſs, where ſo large encouragements are offered as are ſufficient to draw over all our people who have taken any umbrage, or met any misfortune in their own country. And it is wonderful, ſome legiſlative care is not taken in regard to this loſs to our country. In the preſent inſtance, certainly all proprietors of privateers ought to give bond, or be anſwerable to the public for the return of the hands taken out of the kingdom, the common caſualties excepted: for there is greater danger in this light from the deſertion of men out of privateers, than in general out of king's ſhips; becauſe many of the former are broken tradeſmen, or ruined handicrafts, who fly from their homes for debt, and hope to win fortune to them again by making a bold ſtroke at her; who, if ſeduced away, or left deſtitute among our enemies, carry their trades and arts with them.

The common reaſon given abroad by our countrymen themſelves for their deſerting their mother country, is the ill policy of our government or laws, in allowing goals and priſons to be the equal puniſhment of debtors, as of felons, thieves, and perjurers, contrary to the better practice of almoſt every other country in the world. By which means not only numbers fly away for fear of perpetual bondage in their boaſted land of liberty, but alſo many bankrupts, who are denied their certificates at the will of, perhaps, one angry creditor, and others who take the

benefit

benefit of the acts of insolvency; both of whom, after giving up their all they have in the world, are further impeded from setting up any business in their own country, by the impolitic scrupulousness or needless conscience of the law, in making their future effects liable to their former creditors: for if they, having nothing of their own, must set up again in credit, who will trust them with effects, which, before they can be turned into profit, are liable to be instantaneously seized for the debts due to another? I own myself obliged for this argument to a pamphlet lately published, intitled, *Observations on the present State of Bankrupts, in a Letter to a Member of Parliament*, and well worthy the Attention of the legislature.

The succeeding matter is another instance of the watchful attention, which foreign nations lend to the merit of our countrymen, and shews how ready they are to offer them encouragement.

We have taken notice that Mr. Walker was known to the court of Portugal. Being now left alone to shift for himself, as the affair was public over the whole place, and is at this day better known there than in any part of Great-Britain, a gentleman of the court paid him a visit one morning, and proposed to him, as an offer from the king, the command of one of his majesty's ships of war, with assurances of his said majesty's further notice and favour. Mr. Walker, not a little surprized at the proposal, only asked two days to consider of it. The step he took for his direction in this affair, was to go to Sir Benjamin Keene; and candidly laying open the whole to him, he asked his advice how to rule his conduct in regard to it. His excellency, with the greatest politeness, yet zeal for his country, addressed Mr. Walker on the subject to this purpose.—" Sir, says he, I see by your asking my advice, that your inclination leans towards the acceptance, else you yourself could have given a direct answer to the proposal. It is true, the offer is great, and must proceed from a particular good opinion his Portuguese majesty has of your merits.

rits. His future favours may conſtantly attend your deſerts, and we may with reaſon ſuppoſe you in time, perhaps, admiral of his fleet. But then, Sir, you are to conſider, that Portugal is not your country, and you may be brought into a deſperate dilemma, by engaging yourſelf to it ſo eſſentially; for though the countries be now in friendſhip with each other, who knows, as the event of all things is in the hands of providence, how ſoon they may be at variance? Then can you fight againſt your own country? or how can you in honour deſert the prince whoſe bounty and favours, gratitude may lay on you as bonds of obligation? But beſides all this, there is, Sir, a deeper conſideration. We will ſuppoſe, that there is no likelihood of a war in your time between the different countries; or we will ſuppoſe, that you enter into this ſervice under the proviſo of being free to deſert it, in caſe of ſuch a rupture; where certainly every reaſonable ſyſtem will allow, that your honour would engage you firſt to your own country; yet can you conceive, that you can command a ſhip or a fleet in this country, and that other people will not learn from your knowledge, and grow experienced under your practice? Then conſider, (as obſervation, when once ſet in a right path, may find its way to knowledge and perfection) how you may be an inſtrument of teaching another nation to be a competitor to your own, and that in its greateſt and moſt peculiar art of war, and power of defence: What effuſion of blood may in future ages proceed from ſo ſingle a firſt cauſe! Above all this, there is a perpetual reſtleſsneſs in a man's breaſt, when he is in the ſervice of any foreign power: for when we are not with our country, we cannot help fearing that we are againſt it: the love of our country is an inſtinct, politically implanted by heaven within our natures. It is true, his Britannic majeſty in his great indulgence has often given leave to his ſubjects to go into the ſervice of other powers in peace, or in alliance with him: but under the reproof of better wiſdom, I think it for the above reaſon a very impolitic practice.

tice. And in the preſent caſe, there is one very particular objection. Your appearance in the Portugueſe ſervice may give umbrage to another power now in peace with us; I mean the Algerines, who are the declared enemies of the Portugueſe, and who, from a knowledge they have gained of you by ſo long a cruiſe in thoſe parts, and by your having ſtopped ſo many of their ſhips, may, as they are a people quick in conceiving offence, reſent to our court at home, "that a Britiſh ſubject ſhould take a command from their enemies againſt them." Was your ſituation, Sir, in your own country uneaſy to you, was your fortune low, or had your country uſed you with any cruelty or ſlight of your merits, you might have reaſons to wiſh for a change. None of theſe, Sir, I find is the caſe: they are only wiſhes of preferment that charm your attention; and if you will truſt in my intereſt, you ſhall not long go unnoticed by your country."

The argument, which preceded the laſt genteel promiſe, had ſufficiently fixed Mr. Walker's reſolution. And when the gentleman paid his ſecond viſit for Mr. Walker's anſwer; the propoſal offered, was, with great acknowledgments of the compliment, rejected. Whether Sir Benjamin Keene ever did write home to his friends in recommendations of Mr. Walker, we cannot preſume to ſay; but if he did, the other never heard of it. Which however, as he never made any applications, might have never reached his knowledge.

At this time alſo Mr. Walker had intelligence of ill news from home, in the exact account of the loſs of our other prize the Nympha, who had been ſent to England under convoy of his majeſty's ſhip the Bedford, commodore Townſhend; and who, after ſhe had arrived ſafe at Portſmouth, in coming round from thence to London, loſt ſight of her convoy in the night, and thinking that ſhe had ſhot a-head, ſhortened ſail to wait for their coming up; whereas her convoy was a-head of her. After laying ſome hours under their mizen and foreſail, they to their great

ſurprize

ſurprize ſaw breakers under their lee; and notwithſtanding all diligence was uſed to get her double reefed top-ſail ſet, ſhe was in the midſt of the breakers before they could ſhoot her clear, and there was ſtranded. At day-break they found themſelves under the cliffs of Beachy Head: The ſhip was inſured for upwards of an hundred and three thouſand pounds; and about thirty-five thouſand pounds of her effects and cargo were ſaved to the under-writers, by the fidelity and activity of one of the managers, who immediately went down to the wreck. But it was ſaid, that there was a deficiency or loſs of a large ſum in the payment of the money inſured, by the failure of ſome of the under-writers.

We here alſo met with the French merchant, whom we ſaw at the inn at Morlaix, and who had introduced Mr. Walker to the gentleman to buy the veſſel to tranſport us to England. He had failed in his trade in France, and was going with his wife and family to ſettle in the Weſt-Indies; but the ſhip, in which he was a paſſenger, being met by an Engliſh privateer, was taken: he was brought in with her hither, and was in extream poverty. Mr. Walker made a collection of money for him amongſt his friends; who were very liberal on the occaſion, and ſet him up in neceſſaries, ſo as to enable him to proceed to the Weſt-Indies, without returning back a petitioner to France. He told us a moſt piteous ſtory, relating to his affairs; but at one circumſtance we could not help ſmiling, tho' a ſcene of ſome horror. Of all the poor man's misfortunes, his wife was the greateſt. The matrimonial power was not divided in equal ſhares betwixt them: ſhe, good woman, aſſumed the greater part both in judgment, command, and execution; whilſt again every thought and act of her's ſubmitted to a ruling paſſion ſhe had for a young child in her arms. This was ſtill more irkſome to him under authority; as times of eating, drinking, ſtudy, amuſement, and reſt were interrupted by the under-duties attendant thereon, which fell to his ſhare. In giving us a deſcription of the engagement

gagement of the ſhip, in which he was taken (as ſhe had made an obſtinate reſiſtance) he told us that his wife would not conſent to his deſerting her ſide the whole time of the fight, but kept him with her in the cock-pit; where ſhe ſat weeping and wailing over her dear foundling, when a ball coming in at the ſide of the ſhip, on a ſudden ſtruck the child out of her arms, and daſhed it to pieces without doing the leaſt hurt to her, or injuring any other perſon. The man, in deſcribing the ſcene, and the ſurprize and looks of his wife at the loſs of the child, could not help introducing an expreſſive action of humour, that forced us to laugh at the tragedy, as at blunders in the moſt ſerious ſcenes. How far the relation may be depended on as a truth, muſt be left to what credit the reader will give the French gentleman: he ſcarcely could have invented it; nor had he need of any exaggeration by way of affecting pity.

Mr Walker's preſence being no longer needed at Liſbon, he ſet ſail for England in the packet, with ſeveral of his officers, and about forty common men, who would not deſert him to the very laſt, nor act in any thing but by his direction. There was certainly a Providence in this: for as the packet came out by the rock of Liſbon, we ſaw at ſome diſtance a long built veſſel of twenty guns, which we could diſcover full of men, and which we at firſt imagined a Spaniſh barquo-longo. The captain of the packet was a very old gentleman, who was in the greateſt conſternation imaginable, and thought it moſt adviſable to fly from them, in hopes that we might eſcape them in the night. This appeared contrary to the judgment of Mr. Walker, who ſaw by her over-hauling us ſo faſt, that ſhe would be up with us before night, when ſome fatal accident might happen by the blunder of the enemy in the night, as by our running from them they would be more reſolute in attacking us: which accident there was a probability of avoiding, by encountering them by daylight; eſpecially as the packet had ſixteen guns, and as his additional hands were a ſtrength to be depended on. Some

of

of our men having dropped an expreſſion, " that if their captain had the command he would beat the long Spaniard out of the ſea," two Engliſh merchants who were on board and had a great property in the ſhip, went to the captain of their own accord, and begged of him, that he would leave the whole direction of their preſent diſtreſſed affairs to the conduct and experience of Mr. Walker, as an officer more verſed in engagements of the kind. The old gentleman very readily conſented, and Mr. Walker took on himſelf the character of firſt lieutenant. We had not made long preparation before we diſcovered the ſhip to be an Algerine. This was an enemy no leſs to be dreaded : for though we were at peace with them, yet as the packet had Portugueſe property on board, they would have ſeized every ſhilling of money (which was a very conſiderable ſum) and had carried us to Algiers; and though we and the packet might afterwards have been delivered up, the affair might have been a matter of litigation, and brought on very ſad conſequences to our diſfavour.

As ſoon as Mr. Walker was aſſured of his enemy being other than was firſt imagined, he altered his deſign; and, deſiring the captain to retire to his own apartment, and there to take on him as much ſtate as poſſible, when the Algerine officer ſhould come on board, he ordered all his own officers and men, with the other ſailors on board, to quarters, and the marines to their ſmall arms. He ordered alſo his drums to beat to arms, and his band of muſic (all whom he had with him) to ſtrike up, when they came within the hearing of the enemy; and ordering alſo a gun to be fired, we bore down directly on them with our enſign, jack, and pennant flying. When we came within hailing, Mr. Walker ordered them to hoiſt out their boat, and ſend on board a lieutenant. They continued a long time in ſuſpenſe, and returned no anſwer, apparently at a loſs what to make of us, ſeeming other to them than they expected. He again hailed them, " that if they did not ſend their boat with an officer on board, he would ſink them." They

then

then aſked, " what we were ?" He anſwered, " a king's ſhip of war." Upon which they immediately hoiſted out their boat, and an officer came on board. The officer was conducted to the captain, who maintained his dignity extremely well, and aſking the proper queſtions, diſmiſſed him. He then returned aboard his own ſhip; but Mr. Walker immediately hailed them, " not to make ſail, till he gave orders." This could not but employ their attention from a more minute ſcrutiny, and confirm them in the opinion of our being a king's ſhip, had the lieutenant or attending boat ſeen any thing to create a ſuſpicion to the contrary, as it ſhewed us in no great hurry of leaving them. Accordingly he ſoon gave the order, and they went off, ſaluting us with five guns, which we returned with three; they one more for thanks.

This was the laſt gun Mr. Walker heard fired all that war, or indeed ever ſince at ſea. How uſefully to his country he might have been employed in the preſent, the reader, otherways unacquainted with him, may, we hope, from thoſe paſt ſcenes, from ſome judgment, which his friends and they who are knowing of him, can better tell; but as we are now come to the laſt ſcene of the laſt act of the preſent work, we will make haſte to drop the curtain; for the ſword having performed its part, the play ought certainly to be done. Thus in the year 1748 Mr. Walker returned to England, preſerving the packet, which did him the kind office of landing him in his own country. This very packet was taken the year following by an Algerine, who laid wait for her, and was carried into Algiers: By which all the property in her, to a very conſiderable amount, was irrecoverably loſt to the owners. The packet and men were, indeed, afterwards reſtored; but not without much ſtate altercation, in which great time was loſt.

We have now brought Mr. Walker back to land, to the ſame place from whence we launched him on our detail, with deſign to ſet his abilities to public view, and ſhew, that he has been ſo long laid-by, through no defect in them: for I cannot but look on

him

him as a ſound and good ſhip, ſhut up in dock: and therefore, we have been more particular in ſhewing him in ſeveral ſcenes, which even deviated from the tranſaction of the ſea. In which we hope to meet excuſe; we having had a particular reaſon for ſo doing; as by ſome miſrepreſentations of thoſe very actions by common fame, his behaviour in them has been unjuſtly and with ill-nature reported. The reaſons of his inforced inactivity are a diſtinct ſubject of a more private nature, into which I am by no means deſirous of entering; unleſs ſuch juſtification of him, in private life alſo, may be hereafter thought neceſſary or aſked by the public: it is a matter of which even he himſelf ſpeaks with the greateſt reluctance. Pity it is! that where there is ſo little fault on one ſide, the evil machinations of deſigning men, who from various principles and from variety of purpoſes often get between friends, and ſet them at variance, ſhould conjure up to the viſion of jealouſy any imaginary charges againſt him; for he has been all his life abhorring of every mean or bad revenge; though in his reſtrained circumſtances, he has been often obliged to yield his ear to the advice he never followed, and which he from his ſoul deſpiſed. I will be particular in mentioning the evil inſtigator or genius of ill that changed the paradiſe of his life into the fallen ſtate, in which he has ſo long remained; but in which it is impoſſible for his worſt enemies to make him miſerable, as he never was ſeen through the whole courſe of it to be a ſingle moment out of temper at his fate. The wicked author I mean is Mr. Goddard, the aforeſaid agent for the people. A powerful man, as of large fortune! but I fear not to provoke him; as I have truths to oppoſe to every attempt of his reſentment. For Mr. Walker never quarrelled with his managers, till a diſpute aroſe in their accounts, on the large ſums he had advanced to his officers and men for their uſe; but was for many years after his arrival in England in their higheſt eſteem. It certainly ſhews our want of ſenſe to be induced by the artifices of others from our own reaſon and better knowledge of

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men and things; as it originally was want of virtue to be impoſed on by the inſinuation of the firſt tempter to vice! For Mr. Walker, immediately upon his arrival, applied himſelf to works of greater importance, the *General Britiſh Fiſhery*; and which he has to this day more at heart than any other buſineſs, even of conqueſt. I mean not the Britiſh Herring fiſhery: tho' in that he was ſo far engaged, as to propoſe a plan for it to the ſociety, taken from the preſent practice of the Dutch in the like branch of trade and buſineſs, and even went to Holland on purpoſe to make himſelf more ſkilled in a knowledge of it; but on his return home, found Party contending for a majority in it, and Inexperience preſiding at the board, fond of her own thoughts: ſo that he declined being concerned therein, and its ſucceſs proves his foreſight, and muſt confeſs that his judgment was the better rule to have been followed. The fiſhery I mean is the great treaſure, which alſo annually returns to the borders of theſe kingdoms, but has not yet found the way of being brought a-ſhore, the cod, tuſk, and ling fiſhery. In proſecuting of which he made a voyage from Norway all round the coaſt of Scotland, and at his own expence has taken charts and maps of all the ſoundings and every bank of that long tract of ſhore; and having purchaſed ſeveral ſhips, actually begun the work, to the eſtabliſhment of many hundred of families in that country; who now enjoy from his pains and invention a happy maintenance, in a work encreaſing every hour in value to his country. How far his country may purſue the advantage already ſprung for her, and the activity of his mind of uſe to her in peace as well as war, I leave to the political providence of theſe countries to rule and determine. It is certain, that in this undertaking the firſt expences, which all new works neceſſarily demand, had employed the greater part of his fortune, before the returns could ſupply the deficiencies made in it: which accident muſt not even be charged to any raſhneſs of conduct in him, but to a belief that his fortune was greater in the hands of his agents, by

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his aforesaid advance to the officers and men, than in account it is allowed to be. To these we may add some other losses in trade. Yet, to prove the merit of his plan, and good design for his country, he still enjoys the blessing of his own invention, with the continuance of the favours of his friends; his chief dependance being now owing to the friendship of a worthy gentleman, his name-sake, no relation, and in a foreign capacity to sea-affairs; who has provided him a ship in this very trade, and allows him a profit for his support. In the more general direction of which trade, if ever it be thought of merit deserving to be more publicly extended,—as nothing would return the public more recompence or reward,——he certainly has the first right of asking to be employed. But this is a plan, which with his remarks and observations taken of the sea-coast, is sufficient, and may be worthy of a volume to itself.

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